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BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD P.49

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Nick Barbaro

EDITOR

Louis Black

SENIOR EDITORS

MANAGING EDITOR Cindy Widner

FILM Marjorie Baumgarten

ARTS Robert Faires

MUSIC Raoul Hernandez

NEWS Michael King

FOOD Virginia B. Wood

SPECIAL ISSUES, GUIDES, INTERNS Kate Messer

SCREENS, BOOKS Shawn Badgley

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

NEWS Lee Nichols, Cheryl Smith

MUSIC Audra Schroeder

CALENDAR

ARTS LISTINGS Wayne Alan Brenner

COMMUNITY LISTINGS Nora Ankrum

ASST. LISTINGS Anne Harris

STAFF WRITERS

Wells Dunbar, Katherine Gregor, Margaret Moser, Marc Savlov, Amy Smith, Jordan Smith

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

TV EYE Belinda Acosta

TCB Christopher Gray

VISUAL ARTS LISTINGS Benné Rockett

DAY TRIPS Gerald E. McLeod

MR. SMARTY PANTS R.U. Steinberg

LETTERS AT 3AM Michael Ventura

LITERA Ric Williams

CLASSICAL, DANCE LISTINGS Robi Polgar

FASHION Stephen MacMillan Moser

GAY PLACE Kate Getty

PRODUCTION

ART DIRECTOR Taylor Holland

PRODUCTION MANAGER Karen Barry

WEBMASTER Brian Barry

WEB PROGRAMMER Paul Warner

PREPRESS MANAGER Mark Gates

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS Tim Grisham, Shelley Hiam, Carrie Lewis, Chris Linnen, Liz Osting, Doug St. Ament

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS John Anderson, Jana Birchum

PROOFREADERS Mark Fagan, Jeremy Martin, James Renovitch, Sofia Resnick, Darcie Stevens

INTERNS Meredith Barnhill, Lindsay Meeks, Matt Patin, Meghan Ruth Speakerman, Kristine Tofte, Richard Whittaker

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SUBSCRIPTIONS Andrea Skola

CREDIT MANAGER cindy soo

ACCOUNTING Liz Franklin

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT Jenn Nuzzo

INFO CENTER Jessica Cape, Andrea Skola

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR Steve Raymond

ASST. SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR Frederick Stanton

SPECIAL EVENTS Elizabeth Derczo

CIRCULATION

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CONTRIBUTORS

Claudia Alarcón, Lynda Bray, Greg Beets, Kevin Brass, Rob Breznys, Toddy Burton, Jim Caligiuri, Salvador Castillo, Lloyd Dangle, Mark Fagan, Melanie Haupt, Marit Ingman, David Lynch, Tom and Ray Magliozzi, Michael May, Daniel Mottola, Joe O'Connell, MM Pack, Barry Pineo, Doug Potter, Austin Powell, Kimberly Reeves, Josh Rosenblatt, Patricia J. Ruland, Chuck Shepherd, Darcie Stevens, Jason Stout, Tom Tomorrow, Roy Tompkins, Shannon Wheeler


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 web extra For this week's Web extras and more Web exclusives, go to: austinchronicle.com/webextra

CHRONIC NEWS BLOG

This week: MCCracken's WAL-MART GAFFE: HAS TEH PAWN BECOME TEH PWNER?, not to mention more speciously spelled news and opinion from around the city, state, and world

austinchronicle.com/chronic



This week: THE DEBUT OF NEW MUSIC BLOGS DEATH VALLEY NIGHTS AND GEEZERVILLE, plus TCBlog's Tony Bennett/Hank Sr. smackdown for the soul of *The Last Picture Show*, Schadenfreude's walking in Memphis, and Into the Void takes an unholy Sacrament with the Lamb of God tour.

austinchronicle.com/musicblog



This week: SOFIA RESNICK ON LAST SUNDAY'S LONESTAR ROLLERGIRLS BOUT – pillow fights and all – and more opinionated sports blather from everywhere

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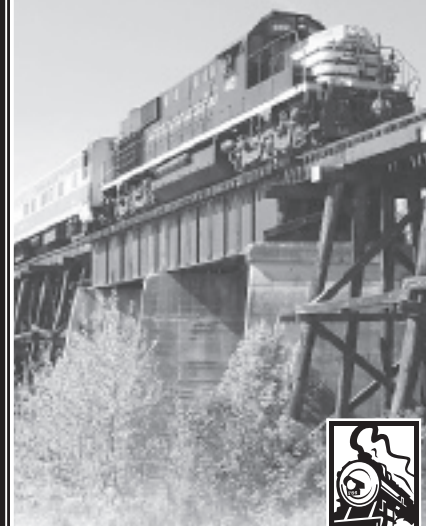
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Second Nature

The ritual chaos and considered lunacy of South by Southwest

BY LOUIS BLACK

I was talking to a friend when some folks I didn't know dropped by to visit. In the course of the conversation, one of them noted that South by Southwest was not far off. "Twenty-seven days," I quickly responded. They looked at me a bit oddly, as though troubled by my over-obsessing. Addressing this confusion, I pointed out that I worked for SXSW, and, beginning in February, we have general staff meetings on Saturdays. At those meetings, Roland Swenson announces how many days remain until the event starts, so that's why I knew the exact number.

By the time you read this, there will be 22 days or less left until SXSW begins. There was a time when, by this time of the year, I would have already been writing about SXSW for weeks. Back then, it filled our lives in unimaginable ways. The time involved in working on it has not lessened at all; it has only increased over the years. Still, as all three aspects of SXSW – Music, Interactive, and Film – have taken on lives of their own, for me at least, the intensity levels have shifted.

It's odd, now that both SXSW and the *Chronicle* have been around for decades: People seem to treat them as though, instead of being created by a lot of people working very hard, they are of nature – of earthen formations that have always been there, shaped by weather and time. They are conceived of as geologically defined, as though they were a rock, a tree, a mountain.

Sometimes I read our blogs, where folks admonish us and question whether we really get it, and think about how the event is changing and if it's enough, keeping in mind all our different obligations to the various constituencies. We started talking about SXSW 08 long before SXSW 07 even began. During the event, the entire staff's first priority is to focus on getting things right, treating people well, and making sure all the different aspects of the event run smoothly. All along the way, however, they are also all focused on what is working and what isn't, what can be added and what needs to be reinvented. Discussions begin then, in the midst of the chaos and exploding plastic inevitable of it all. Constantly, we are all focused on evaluating, considering, and improving.

Right after SXSW 07 ends, discussions will begin in earnest, with many sessions devoted to examining every aspect of the events. But someone banging out a blog in 10 minutes certainly has a perspective we don't, which is always worth considering.

Early on in the first days of the *Chronicle*, a group of Austin writers invited Nick Barbaro and me to a ranch south of town. Turned out they wanted to grill us, to figure out whether we were serious enough about this publication. At the time, our lives were imploding into the vortex of the *Chronicle*, so there was almost nothing else left to them, but still they really wanted to

vet us. I was trying to be accommodating, as I'm slow to react to outrageousness that is so extreme as to be beyond insulting. Nick, on the other hand, was torn between his genuine, deep desire to murder all of them and an even more profound bloodlust to do me in for making him come to this meeting. If they issued us a report card, we've still never seen it.

Elsewhere in the *Chronicle* is an explanation of the circumstances under which SXSW wristbands will be sold and how to find out where and when that will happen. Some of the blog outrage of last year was over the fact that we sold only a limited number of wristbands. Now, obviously, we could have sold many, many more and raked in the money. The reality is that we spend an enormous amount of time considering capacity and how different bills will draw. We try as best we can to calculate the overall attendance flow. Over the past few years, we have continually cut back the number of wristbands that are made available in order to ensure their value. Sure, a wristband might not get you in to the hottest acts, especially if they've insisted on playing a smaller club. Given that there are nearly 70 stages, however, at any time there are 50 or more SXSW venues that you can essentially waltz into with a wristband.

But I do protest too much and not nearly enough. Like jazz, SXSW "jes grew" while we were napping and trying to find our way back to that ranch.

Neither Nick nor I ever, even in our wildest and most extraordinary dreams, imagined what SXSW has grown into over the years. But I'd bet anything that, even if he wasn't clear on the exact shape SXSW would end up being or the actual specifics of all the different details, SXSW Managing Director Roland Swenson got it from early on. More than any of the rest of us, he had the grand idea of it in his head almost all along. Sometimes Swenson would blast full speed ahead, expecting us to follow. Other times, knowing our many peculiarities, he would feed us radically new ideas a bit at a time until we

were finally so surrounded by the molten flow there was no chance to do anything but go forward in the direction he pointed.

I love SXSW. Make any joke you want, any nasty jibe or cutting joke. It's my favorite time of the year. SXSW is imagined Austin, music Disneyland Austin, and Austin fantastic, but it is always organically of this town, and none of the SXSW staff ever forgets or loses sight of that fact. As Austin was, as it is, and as it will be, so is SXSW. It is not a foreign event or an invented idea. SXSW views creativity, champions culture presents music, encourages ideas, celebrates dialogue, approaches new media, and shows films almost exactly as this town always has – only, perhaps, multiplied and magnified.

Yes, there is an insanity to the staff's lives and lifestyles during the event, an unrelenting enthusiasm driving an unswerving focus, heavily spiced by a weariness that has come to be atmospheric without ever being a recognized handicap or considered hindrance. A damn-the-torpedoes, full-speed-ahead lunacy grips us early on, as details are minutely observed without sight of the big picture ever being lost. It is pagan and sophisticated, natural and from some place most of us haven't been in a very long time.

The other night, I watched *Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia*, as I have so many times before. This is Sam Peckinpah's most demented masterpiece, a film that early on slips the restraints of logic and the grasp of real life as it madly soars toward a goal so perverse one tries not to fully grasp it. The film is not only nearly insane for the most part, but leaves that ground only to go so far beyond it as to seem to be in a different language, one not of this Earth. It is about futile, brutal, and deadly quests, which is how Peckinpah viewed his life and career. He felt beaten by Hollywood, felt that somehow, when all was said and done, he had lost the creative wars that he had unrelentingly fought throughout his career. The film is a passionate, irrational drive toward an impossible goal; it is a ballet of the obscene danced to the poetry of those who would be mad. The first sentence of Henry Miller's *Tropic of Capricorn*, as I remember it, is, "Once you have given up hope, all else follows with dead certainty even in the midst of chaos." Nothing follows with dead certainty in the world Peckinpah has Warren Oates drive through in *Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia* from the very beginning – not even chaos.

I regularly watch the film in the weeks before SXSW to remind myself of the tactile sensations and hallucinogenic properties of the world into which we are about to enter. ■

Oops! Due to a miscommunication with the office of North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson, in last week's update on North Dakota hemp farming ("Reefer Madness," Feb. 9), we incorrectly reported that, at press time, Drug Enforcement Administration officials had not yet responded to Johnson's request that the agency waive individual federal registration for state-licensed hemp farmers. In fact, the DEA did respond, on Feb. 2, denying Johnson's request. Also, a news story last week ("Health, Hype, and the HPV Vaccine") may have left some readers with the impression that Rep. Dianne White Delisi, R-Temple, had privately lobbied the governor for an executive order on the HPV vaccine and then publicly objected to the mandate. "Every action taken by Representative Delisi since this executive order was released has been consistent with her belief that this is a matter to be resolved by the Texas Legislature," said Delisi's chief of staff James Cooley. The *Chronicle* regrets the errors.

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Developers Should Fix Streets

Dear Editor,
Re: New VMU development at 3130 Guadalupe ["Going Vertical," News, Feb. 9]: What I don't understand is why the city doesn't make the developers of 3130 Guadalupe fix the street that they destroyed during construction. Guadalupe is all torn up right in front of 3130. They broke it; they should fix it. Not just slap asphalt on it, fix it. I pass by there at least twice a day dropping my wife off to work, or going to the Showdown. Where do I send a bill for my truck's busted shocks?

Don Roach Jr.

Stupid Cover Instead of Molly

To the *Chronicle*,
I absolutely cannot believe that my hometown paper opted for a stupid Valentine's Day cover instead of what truly deserved to be there: a feature on Molly Ivins [Feb. 9]. I am furious and hope anyone with a political conscience is too. I applauded the decision to put Clifford Antone on the cover in a hurry when he died. I know he was Austin's true gift to music, but he and Molly represented what is best known as old Austin: loving friends, fun, Austin, and shouting out their opinions no matter how unpopular it may have made them. They both truly stood up for what

they believed in, and the *Chronicle* shows its true colors by opting to advertise yet another bogus, commercial holiday aimed at consumerism and hollow sentimentalism. At a time when Bush just boosted his defense-budget proposal by billions of dollars and thousands of Iraqis and Americans have died, it makes me sick to think that we would not be honoring Molly Ivins, whose last article, which she dictated as she lay dying, spoke out for us to speak out. Maybe you should read it more closely. A tiny, corner mention of Molly mourned will not do. And maybe you could look up some historical facts on where roses come from and how Ecuadorian and Colombian workers who fumigate the hothouse plants (so people here can have them year-round and especially now) die in high numbers from cancer. Maybe your next issue can be about which fancy Austin boutique to buy diamonds in. I am so disappointed in the *Chronicle* – I waited all week for the "special issue" to come out. I call on readers to join me in banging on pots and pans.

Signed,
Suzette Ermler

[Editor's response: This is all a matter of timing. We heard the tragic news as we were going to press and at least managed to get the information in that issue. The next issue was a week later, and by that time, there had been a storm of media coverage on Molly Ivins, as she well deserved.]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or e-mail address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

General e-mail address: mail@austinchronicle.com Postmarks forum: austinchronicle.com/forums/postmarks
Mailing address: The Austin Chronicle, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765

Chuckling Doggedly

Dear Dave Denison,
Molly's dog Shit must have been an egghead – he forced me to look up that fancy-schmanzy word "marplot" ["Point Austin," News, Feb. 9]. When did Mary Ivins become Molly, and why? I only saw Molly Ivins once in the flesh, at Berkeley, celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Free Speech Movement. It was at the peak of the freedom fries nonsense. She reminded us that during World War I, similar dunderheads banned dachshunds but didn't have the balls to ban rottweilers. We all chuckled, doggedly.

Patrick D. Hazard
Weimar, Germany

Arms Around Austin

Dear Editor,
Thanks to everyone who came out in numbers Saturday morning in support of Arms Around Northcross. It was refreshing to see so many united together for such an important cause. We must continue our efforts to stop Wal-Mart at Northcross. Shop responsible. Be involved. Our city is not destined to become a corporate cesspool. Take Austin back.

Peace,
Colette Michalec
AustinFullCircle.org

An Enjoyable 'Page Two'!

Mr. Black,
Although you and I have had our differences, I wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed reading your column from yesterday's edition ["Page Two," Feb. 9]. It was so enjoyable that I read it a second time.

Thank you,
Scott Sexton

Affordability Tools

Dear Editor,
What I find strange about Austin is the fatalism people have regarding its affordability ["Going Vertical," News, Feb. 9].
There are very simple mechanisms to make a city – even a popular city – affordable and keep it that way for much of the population, mechanisms that this paper has even discussed in the past.
The two best are community land trusts and mandatory (not incentive-based) inclusionary zoning, mandating that a certain percentage of any new development be "affordable" with a clear and strong definition of affordability based on working-class wages.

Honestly, no, it's wrong to say that only the rich should have easy access to treasured local landmarks. The rich didn't create Barton Springs; God and nature did. Developers just built fences around the damned thing. Developers didn't create the Hill Country; they just fenced it off and built mansions on it.

If affluent folks are drawn to Austin because of its vibrancy, a vibrancy that goes hand in hand with a creative, artistic, working-class setting, where people can devote themselves to craft and artisanship and make enough to survive, then they're shooting themselves in the feet when they price working-class people out of homes and drive them to the periphery of the city.

Donald Jackson

Audacity of Rick Perry

Dear *Austin Chronicle*,
Thank you for speaking out about Rick Perry's mandate ["On the Lege," News, Feb. 9]. I haven't read your article yet, but a friend told me about it. I will be picking up a copy on my way home today.

continued on p.10

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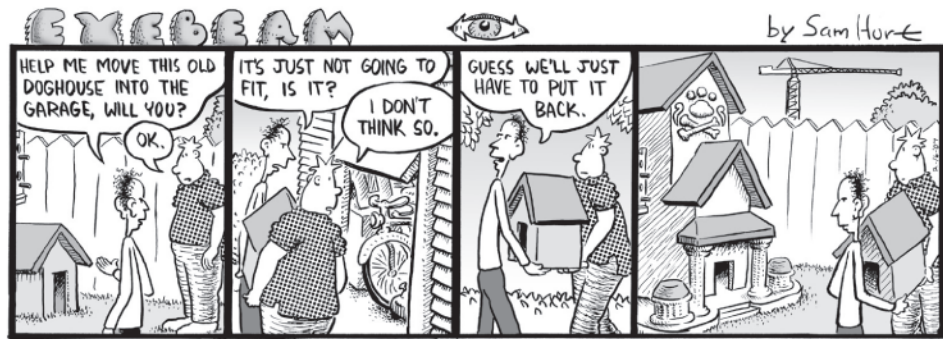
NATIONAL
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FOR THE ARTS

This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, Mid-America Arts Alliance, National Performance Network, and private contributions.

I have written several letters regarding this, and I plan on writing many, many more letters. This is being considered in states across the country. I feel that I owe it to the unsuspecting to take this as far as I can.

Anyone who thinks that this doesn't affect them should really think twice. This affects all of us. Anyone who thinks that it's a positive thing to require this, just wait and see what comes next. There is plenty more to come unless we speak out and demand action. Aside from the audacity of Rick Perry, we are being governed by powerful lobbies and corporations. This is nothing new, but I for one have just had it. This has just been the last straw. Merck, Women in Government, and Rick Perry are putting a very powerful spin on this. What parent doesn't want to protect their child from illness or disease? But parents have not exactly been swarming to doctors' offices to vaccinate their daughters in the mere six-to-eight months since the vaccine has been out. This is not about potential benefits of a vaccine, nor is it about the cost of health care. This is about a lone company that has crossed the line; this is about a lone elected official who has crossed the line; and this is about a governmental group that has crossed the line. Women in Government has allowed itself to succumb to Merck's marketing and Merck's political and moral spin. The group has allowed itself to be courted by Merck. And now Women in Government is leading the charge. They are spreading the marketing and the political and moral spin. They, along with Merck, are courting state legislatures across the country. I'm sure there are plenty more companies and lobbies that are waiting in line to get a piece of this action. They are just waiting to see what happens with this. If this flies across the country, or even in one state, we are doomed!

We are beyond the point of "Get out the vote!" It's time to "Get out the action!"



So, in advance of reading your article, thank you for seeing through this "valuable" mandate to "save the health and welfare of our daughters"!

Julie A. Morrow

Hightower off the Mark

Dear Editor,

Jim Hightower's excoriation of Chief Justice John Roberts' complaint about low salaries for federal judges betrays either Hightower's utter contempt for or misunderstanding of capitalism ["The Hightower Report," Feb. 2]. Federal judges are paid less now (adjusted for inflation) than at any time in history. Indeed, first-year associates at large law firms are now paid more than federal judges. Consequently, it's become harder and harder to attract the brightest, most-qualified people to deal with oftentimes Byzantine cases. And that hurts everyone, including the normal folks who are affected (and everyone's affected) by federal court decisions in all areas of the law. No one's saying federal judges are "paupers," but you don't stock an NFL team with cheap high school also-rans. I normally like Jim Hightower, but he's off the mark here.

Mark Sigmon

Don't Fall for PR Tricks

Dear Editor,

Who exactly is going to destroy the Ranch 616 ["Developing Stories," News, Feb. 2]? It happens to be the same developer that is claiming to save it ... hmmm. They are demanding 400 feet, or they have no project. So tell me, if they don't get the zoning change they require to put up a 400-foot tower, and they have no project, does the ranch still go away? Not likely, because that's not what this zoning change is really all about.

This zoning will drop a 400-foot tower directly across from the original city neighborhood – a Downtown, mixed-use, historic neighborhood that is far more iconic. Bigger is not always better everywhere Downtown. Supporting an out-of-context zoning change like this hurts Austin's character and diminishes the texture and diversity Downtown. Please don't fall for developers' PR tricks, rather than supporting the city of Austin's commitment to planning and creating a thoughtful Downtown plan that ensures Downtown is everyone's neighborhood.

Katherine Jones
Milkshake Media

Why All the Litter?

Dear Editor,

I have lived in Austin for 12 years now. The population here has roughly doubled in that time. The amount of development is staggering but inevitable. What I truly cannot understand is the amount of litter strewn everywhere. I'd say this problem has increased by a factor of 10. It's disgraceful. I have had visitors from other cities comment on how trashed this town is. All one has to do is look down. You cannot turn your head without seeing litter. It doesn't matter if it's at a state park, a gas station, a grocery store, or along every road. There is an unbelievable amount of garbage everywhere. There isn't a parking lot in this town that doesn't have a fast-food bag lying in it.

I actually stared in disbelief recently as some guy tossed his trash on the ground at Jack in the Box. He picked it up when he realized I was looking right at him – only to toss it in the back of his pickup. That bag certainly got sucked out as soon as he hit highway speed. That's where most of the road trash comes from.

I pick up a lot of other people's trash. I do as much as I can. The city of Austin says to just call 311, and a manager of code enforcement will investigate the matter. I've tried that for Davis Lane. I got a call back, but I have seen no action. I realize there's a lot of area to cover, but it really seems like nobody gives a shit and everyone has blinders on.

Sorry, but the Don't Mess With Texas campaign isn't enough. Minimum fines need to be dramatically increased for littering and need to be strictly enforced. I'm at a loss to come up with a better solution. Maybe the city could double the amount of code-enforcement managers. Clearly they are overwhelmed.

Brian Gleason
continued on p.12

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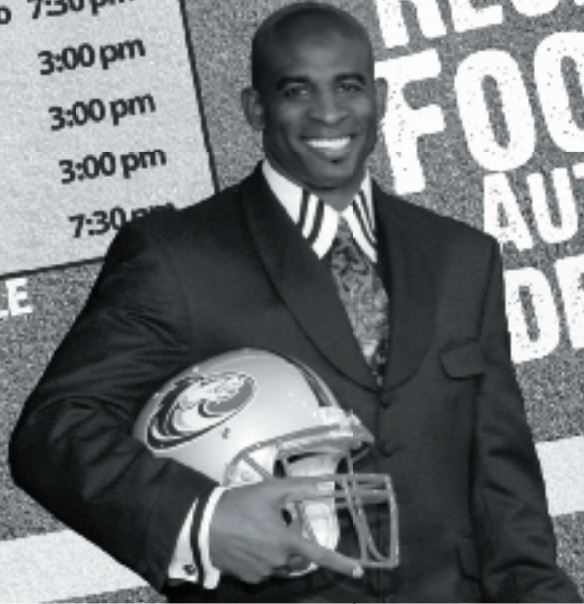
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*Austin Chronicle, Best of Austin, Vol 26, Issue No. 6, Oct. 13, 2006.

Obama-Nation

Dear Editor,

It occurred to me the real possibilities of the United States becoming an Obamanation! Har, har hey!

Betsy McCutcheon

Solution to Iraq Is Simple

Dear Editor,

The solution to Iraq is actually simple. Right now, we're in that country as an occupying force (no, not a liberator). They need a peacekeeping force. They need someone in there who doesn't tell them who their prime minister must be, which candidates are acceptable, how to worship, what crops to grow, who to do business with, etc. In 2005 the Arab League offered to send troops, Bush refused because they would not agree to be under U.S. control. We need to ask them again and include the members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. This peacekeeping force would be under the supervision of the United Nations. As the Islamic troops move in, we can move our troops out. I have no doubt that sectarian violence would continue for a few more months; it's hard to give up on hate and old habits. But sooner or later they'd begin to understand that they were killing other Muslims without the excuse of having a crusader force in their country. They'd be dealing with a force that spoke their language, followed their customs, and practiced the same religion. The main reason this plan would work is because after those few months of violence, they'd begin to realize that they really were in control of their country and didn't have the U.S. looking over their shoulders. Unfortunately, Bush won't accept this plan. The reason: The main reason we went into Iraq was to have control over their oil. Bush and his oil buddies would no longer have that control. Why, Iraq could even sell that oil to China, who might then give them billions in aid, which would further stabilize the country.

This thought is so repugnant to Bush and Co. we'll never see it mentioned as an option. Oh, well, the war is helping the economy at least.

Jay Williams

austinchronicle.com/postmarks
UPDATED DAILY

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



Rest in Peace, Sweet Molly

Dear Editor,

Not a good day for supporters of human rights everywhere. The news of Molly Ivins passing hit hard this morning. We all knew she was fighting a terrible cancer, but we hoped and believed that if anyone could beat it, Molly Ivins could. We were wrong.

She was our freedom fighter and our voice for minorities and the dispossessed. Her ability to mix humor with reporting on political matters of major consequence was unmatched. Reading the editorial page will never be the same.

I had the privilege of hearing and meeting Molly at a human-rights fundraiser in Kansas City more than a decade ago. She autographed her book *Nothin' but Good Times Ahead* for me that evening and said, "For Gary, a Texan in exile ... Come Home." Last month I took her advice and moved back to Austin. I'll sure miss her. Rest in peace, sweet Molly ... and keep Ann Richards laughing.

Gary Campbell

'Weed Watch'?

Dear Editor,

What happened to "Weed Watch"?

Randy Aslin

[Editor's reply: It has been rechristened "Reefer Madness." You can see the archived print versions at austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Archive/column?oid=old%3A415631. You can also see it in blog form (usually all the print columns but also some extra items that are Web-only) at austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/News/?blog=oid%3A415598. Thanks for reading.]

Zappa Still Lives

"Postmarks,"

Just when I thought I'd heard it all, now I read where Louis Black is a Zappa fan, if not a true Zappa aficionado ["Page Two," Feb. 2].

If you haven't heard the posthumous release of a collection CD called *Cheap Thrills*, I highly recommend it. The interview Zappa does with

the hotel manager (of Mud Shark fame) is a gut-buster. What with all the no-talent trash that plagues the live music capital of the world, it's good to see real music is still alive and well. Much of Zappa's music, especially the lyrics and live shows, were off the wall, to say the least, but the epitome of multitalent genius none the less. Then there's Frank Zappa's total disregard for political correctness and hatred of agenda-seeking sellouts. Zappa still lives in the hearts of many.

Kurt Standiford

p.s. Yo Louis, even though I have no idea about the "right-wing hate radio" you listen to (i.e., radio dial, names, times?, etc.), I'm sure I sympathize with your morbid curiosity. Why do you think I read *The Austin Chronicle*?

Imagine an Unending War

Dear Editor,

Michael Ventura's Baghdad Alamo ["Letters @ 3am," Feb. 2] sheds a lot of light: the Sunni predicament, the impotency of the Iraqi parliament, and the Iraqi security force "contributions" thus far. Quoted from *The Week*, surge plan co-author and American Enterprise Institute frontman Frederick Kagan believes 30,000-80,000 additional troops will be enough to quell the violence and restore order in and around Baghdad. The Kagan-Keane estimates are among the lowest available.

Gen. Anthony Zinni (*Rolling Stone*, November 2004): "We had a plan for an invasion of Iraq, and it had specific numbers in it. We wanted to go in there with 350,000 to 380,000 troops. ... We knew that we would find ourselves in a situation where we had completely uprooted an authoritarian government and would need to freeze the situation: retain control, retain order, provide security, and seal the borders to keep terrorists from coming in."

We have 140,000 troops in Iraq now. The Bush administration is proposing a 21,000 increase.

Imagine being a part of an understaffed unit with orders to actively engage and contain the entropic center of a Third World religious and civil conflict. Imagine the new Iraqi parliament can't agree on anything (no quorum since November). Imagine the violence is escalating. Imagine you've already been there off-on, mostly on, for just under four years now.

Mike Stewart
Houston



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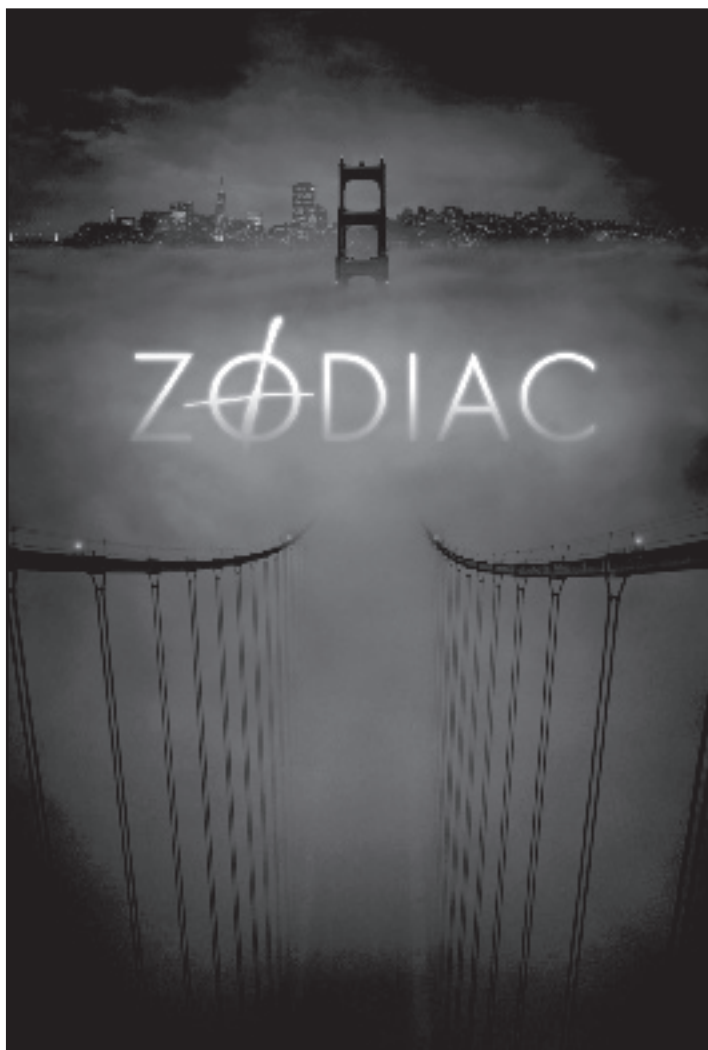
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Tuesday, February 27, 7:30pm

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Webb Games

Webb Middle School is a test case for bad public policy vs. community resolve

BY MICHAEL KING

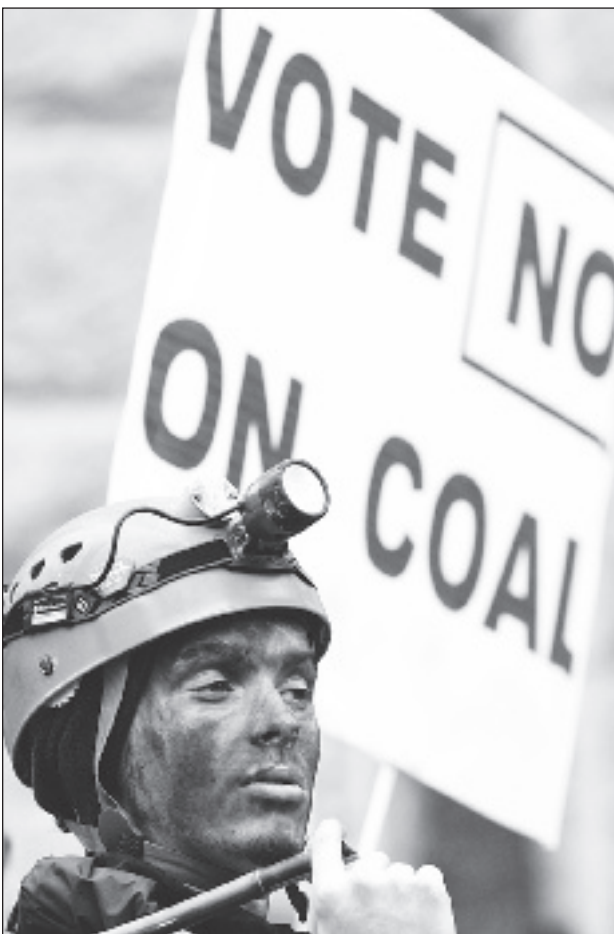
Although the dust has far from settled, the public battle to defend Webb Middle School from the blunt and counterproductive logic of “accountability” has paused, at least momentarily. Austin Independent School District Superintendent Pat Forgione, facing strong and outspoken opposition from the Webb community, has backed down from his initial recommendation to close the school outright, proposing instead that the AISD board of trustees close Webb’s sixth grade this fall and then phase out seventh and eighth grades in the following years. It’s not at all clear why this elongated execution should be preferred to a sudden mercy killing, especially since Forgione’s original argument was that it was better to take pre-emptive action to close Webb before the Texas Education Agency ordered the district to do so. If the situation is truly so dire, why should the TEA stay its hand while AISD dithers? It’s hard to see Forgione’s retreat as anything other than tactical, hoping the community outrage will dissipate over time, while the district proceeds, albeit a bit more slowly, with its original plan to close Webb and transfer the school’s students to Dobie or Pearce, schools which face many of the same challenges.

To their credit, the district trustees have been publicly quite skeptical of Forgione’s proposal, suggesting that his administrative homework on this project wasn’t performed any more diligently than his community outreach. The board has delayed a formal decision on Webb and asked Forgione to respond to the specific community objections to the proposed closing. At a minimum, that probably means the quick closure is off the table, although the board will make a formal decision in the next few weeks. But the delayed phase-out is also a bad idea, not only because of what it will do to the Webb/St. Johns community, but because it will represent a premature capitulation to bad state and federal policy that needs to be opposed at the district level now, before it builds any more political momentum.

Webb vs. Garcia?

As Michael May reports here today (“Left Behind,” p.30), Webb is nominally in its fourth year of potential “low performance,” a state ranking that uses Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test scores and other standards as blunt weapons against public schools. The process is based on a business model that may make sense for marketing beef jerky but is nonsense for teaching students, who are not products to be phased out if they

continued on p.16



SANDY CARSON

An estimated 2,000 demonstrators took to the Capitol Sunday afternoon in a music-filled rally demanding a “time out” for the governor’s fast-tracked permitting of at least 17 proposed coal power plants, and voicing support for HCR 43, a bill filed by Waco area GOP Rep. Charles “Doc” Anderson calling for a 180-day permit moratorium. More than 50 community, environmental, faith, and public health groups participated and attendees hailed from far-flung places like Bonham, Athens, Fairfield, and Uncertain, TX (near Caddo Lake). Addressing the crowd, Anderson said legislators must look at the “whole enchilada” of the plants’ cumulative impacts, referenced a new UT study’s findings that the plants could send Austin and Waco into federal air pollution violation. He said his bill “isn’t about moving left or right, but forward to embrace new technology.” HCR 43 had eight co-sponsors at press time, including Austin’s Donna Howard, and was awaiting a hearing in the House Environmental Regulation Committee. Mega-utility TXU, proposing 11 of the 17 plants, was on hand Sunday as well. Spokeswoman Kim Morgan said TXU’s plans were misunderstood, and if the plants aren’t built as proposed, “we’ll be facing [energy] supply problems and the burden will fall on you and I to make better efficiency decisions.” For more, see www.stopthecoalrush.com, www.stopthecoalplant.org, and www.reliabletexaspower.com. — **Daniel Mottola**



GARY MILLER

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Well, to quote the great *Simpsons* – ‘Haa-ha!’”

– Austin singer **Natalie Maines** of the Dixie Chicks, channeling Nelson after picking up one of five Grammys Sunday night. The awards were seen as vindication after country radio dumped the Chicks when Maines criticized President Bush four years ago.

HEADLINES

- ▶ Neighbors of the beleaguered **Northcross Mall**, still fighting to prevent construction of a **Wal-Mart Supercenter**, succeeded Saturday in entirely surrounding the property in a symbolic Arms Around Northcross protest. They also announced a citywide boycott of Wal-Mart and Sam’s Club. For more, see “Developing Stories,” p.18.
- ▶ City Council meets today (Thursday) with a heavy agenda, at least some of it spinning off the Northcross debate. See “Beside the Point,” p.16.
- ▶ Facing strong community opposition, Austin Independent School District board of trustees on Monday deferred until later this spring a decision on Superintendent Pat Forgione’s recommendation to close **Webb Middle School**. See “Left Behind,” p.30 and “Webb Games,” right.
- ▶ The U.S. House is engaged in a weeklong debate on a nonbinding resolution rejecting the Bush administration’s current **plan to escalate the number of troops in Iraq**. The resolution is expected to pass easily Friday, although the White House has shown no inclination to change course and has instead spent the week broadcasting supposed Iranian involvement in the war – the technical term is “hypocrisy.”

NAKED CITY

- ▶ The state accountability system has rated **Johnston High School** “academically unacceptable” for three years in a row, which means that, unless scores dramatically improve this year, the Texas Education Agency could close the school. On Monday, the AISD board of trustees heard about three options: Superintendent Pat Forgione recommended that the district stay the course on its high-school-redesign plan and let the school remain two “small learning communities,” with additional TEA interventions. The board could also apply for two new Public Education Information Management System numbers, which would effectively turn the two learning communities into two distinct schools under the accountability system. Finally, the board could decide to create a contingency plan, in case the TEA or the district decides to close the school in the fall of 2007 or 2008. The trustees will vote on the proposals at a later date.

– **Michael May**

- ▶ In other education news, AISD released a **district report card**, which shows that, on average, scores on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test are improving for students in most subjects – although writing and social-studies passing scores remain the same as last year. That said, the district still lags 2% to 5% behind state averages in most subjects. The report card was released just as Austin students are gearing up for this year’s TAKS test, which students will take beginning Tuesday, Feb. 20. Students in third and fifth grade must pass the test to be promoted, and high school students must pass to graduate. The district asks parents to help students by making sure they get a good night’s sleep the night before and eat a good breakfast the morning of the test. The district also emphasizes that attendance on TAKS day is critical because a school will be rated “unacceptable” if less than 95% of students take the test. The test dates are scattered throughout February and April. The exact dates are available at www.austinisd.org. — **M.M.**
- ▶ The city of Austin has put a price tag on the snow days from the ice storm earlier this year – \$1.6 million in official city costs. The breakdown goes like this: More than \$1 million went to personnel costs, \$272,000-plus went to contractors like tree-trimmers and tow-truck operators; de-icing supplies ate up \$174,000, while \$72,000 in sundry and various other services make up the rest. But it ain’t a thang to City Manager Toby Futrell, who delivered the faux-modest quote that the city “ensured the ice storm was kept in the realm of mere crisis, not an out-and-out disaster.” — **Wells Dunbar**
- ▶ On the heels of Sunday’s anti-coal demonstration, emerging nonprofit **Renewable Energy Institute** announced Monday that Austin will be the site for its official headquarters, enthusiastically rebuffing utility claims that energy efficiency and renewables cannot offset the need for new fossil-fuel power plants in Texas today. The institute plans to use private funding (at least \$1 million so far) to create a venue where leading statewide academics can collaborate on renewable-energy technologies while preserving intellectual property rights. They’ll focus on a wide range of clean energy technologies, including: concentrating solar power, anaerobic digesters, biodiesel, bio-methane, demand-side energy management, utility interconnection, fuel cells, geothermal power, landfill gas, and ocean/tidal energy. Spokesman Mike Logan said the group will “bridge the gap between the private sector and academia” and help the U.S. beat the 25%-renewable-energy-by-2025 goal being entertained in Washington while pursuing the urgent need for for-

continued on p.17

aren't selling at a sufficient pace. Indeed, Webb's first year in the TEA doghouse was based not even on its own students, but on post-Webb ninth-grade dropouts (who may themselves have been miscounted). We've reported frequently on the official folly of turning diagnostic tools into high-stakes bludgeons against students and teachers, and I won't rehearse those arguments here – but it's worth noting that a good many of the freshman reps now serving in the Texas House arrived there on the strength of pro-public-schools voters long since fed up with the Lege's "accountability" frenzy, particularly regarding high-stakes testing.

There's also another specific factor in the Webb case that has thus far received little notice. Administrators are openly concerned that the new Northeast Garcia Middle School, scheduled to open this fall, will be relatively underenrolled, possibly making it difficult financially to sustain Webb, Dobie, Pearce, and Garcia. Forgione has long made no secret of his impatience with attempting to sustain the district's smaller inner-city schools. Board President Mark Williams told me frankly that the "multivariable equation" affecting the pending Webb decision includes 1) academic issues, 2) the TEA "hammer" of accountability, 3) wider community demand for more "choice" (e.g., a boys' leadership academy for Webb), and 4) "increasing financial constraints in a fixed-revenue environment." The same state that is demanding high test scores or closure is refusing to provide the additional resources to educate Webb's many special-needs students.

Who Will AISD Serve?

I asked Garcia Middle School's namesake, Mayor Emeritus Gus Garcia, what he thought of the district's new, tangential justification for closing Webb – that is, in order to husband resources for the other three Northeast middle schools. "Basically, that's not a good argument," Garcia said. "The new school is built not for right now but for the next 50 years, and this area is growing, and the school will fill up over the next 10 years. I don't agree that it's a good idea to close Webb to fill up Garcia."

Like most Webb supporters, Garcia calls attention to the fact that Webb has absorbed a

student population with special challenges, including many very recent, non-English speaking immigrants, and that even so, its academic performance has steadily improved – just not quickly enough to satisfy all of the TEA's always-rising criteria. To close Webb under these conditions, said Garcia, "sends the wrong message to the community, which is doing everything it can to support that school, in real ways. Instead the district should be trying to find the resources to address those needs. ... To give us a chance to help those students. We don't want to weaken that community."

Closing Webb is a bad idea, not only because of what it will do to the community, but because it will represent a premature capitulation to bad state and federal policy that needs to be opposed at the district level now.

Garcia added that he doesn't want to point fingers at the superintendent or the board, because he understands their predicament under state and federal law. But when asked, "What if the TEA indeed decides to close Webb?" he answered, "That's not the right question. Instead, the board has to ask itself, who do they represent – the state or the community that elected and supports them?"

Williams says he doesn't know what the board will finally decide but that "we're all driven by what's best for the Webb students." The trustees are still gathering information, he said, and he insisted, "Nobody got on the school board in order to close schools." Maybe not. But should the district allow itself to devolve into a reluctant executioner for the state, officials should not be surprised when they look to the community for support and nobody's there. ■

BESIDE THE POINT How Big Is It?! BY WELLS DUNBAR

Who's playing the numbers tonight?

If anyone was running a racket last weekend, it was the **KXAN Channel 36** news crew. Shoring up his hustle on the eve of Saturday's **Arms Around Northcross** protest, talking head **Chris Willis** had **Brewster McCracken** wax **Wal-Mart** for the cameras. Never one not to iterate a talking point within an inch of its rhetorical existence, McCracken rolled out a doozy, destined for stuffing and mounting on his buckling sound-bite trophy shelf: that the Northcross supercenter would be not only the largest Wal-Mart in Central Texas (or, as he had previously branded on our brains, the biggest store around these parts period, following IKEA) but "would be the largest Wal-Mart in the entire world," nonpareil.

At which point our omniscient narrator interjects, "Wait a minute, back that up," before rewinding the tape, chipmunk-exorcism vox intact, and replaying McCracken's claim. (Unfortunately, the priceless clip is no longer on KXAN's Web site; surely the Institute of Radio, Television, and Film beckoned.) Saying KXAN "checked city records," Willis claimed five CenTex Wal-Marts were all larger than what's proposed at Northcross.

But according to the city, the station (surprise) didn't check very well. Austin Police Department provided the city with square-footage numbers as part of a Wal-Mart crime-statistics package. The proposed Northcross Wal-Mart, with two stories and a garden center, would be 225,085 square feet. Next-closest of the six provided stores is the 183 store on Norwood Park, at 223,233 square feet; the Ben White locale clocks in at a mere 206,359 square feet.

So KXAN was wrong in downplaying the size of the Northcross tract. Was McCracken right in his *Guinness Book* claims? It appears not. While a 300,000-square-foot behemoth in Hawaii will forever be the hoary rumor that got away (the store being some unholy hybrid of a supercenter and a Sam's Club – try living next to that thing), several Wal-Mart profiles describe their supercenters growing as large as 261,000 square feet. Conceding he may have gotten the level of comparison wrong, McCracken still says, "It is definitely the largest Wal-Mart in Central Texas."

But post-protest, with the 60-day development moratorium in the Dumpster, is it full speed ahead for the hypermart? McCracken saw revised site plans after running into **Lincoln Property** and Wal-Mart reps outside of Jo's Coffee by City Hall (they were no doubt marveling at the profit margins along Second Street; if only Wal-Mart had Eames lounge chairs stacked high and priced low). He reports that aside from some additional landscaping and revised street systems ("all positive things"), the design is fundamentally unchanged.

With meetings between Responsible Growth for Northcross, Lincoln, and the city – plus Wal-Mart's own hokey "town hall" hoedown scheduled for March 5 – bulldozers won't likely roll for a little while; failing that, RG4N still has the option of a lawsuit. But McCracken is hopeful. "A protest of 2,500 private citizens is unprecedented" for a local issue, he said, describing the rally's importance as "difficult to overstate." Well, if anyone could ...

BOXING DAY

A welter of items awaits council today (Thursday), its first meeting in weeks with a full quorum. Council members will need it, too, as a proposed zoning change to the **Town Lake Hyatt Regency** will require a supermajority of six votes, the plan having come under fire from other developers as bad design. (The city has so far responded with a hearty shrug.) The platinum development procession cuts an extra-wide swath this week, with the proposed 400-foot **Seventh and Rio Grande condo tower** and dense mixed-use zoning for the **I-35 Concordia campus** both coming before the council, along with public hearings and possible action on the **vertical-mixed-use opt-in/opt-out process** and – finally – the revised **Big Box Ordinance**. Green dreams round out the rest of the agenda, with the mayor's massive **climate protection program** and McCracken's marriage of UT's **Clean Energy Incubator** program with the utility both taking the stage. It's the first program of its kind ... in the entire world!

For more on the ongoing Northcross Wal-mart scandal, see "Developing Stories," p.18, as well as the public debate at *Chronic*, www.austinchronicle.com/chronic.

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eign energy independence. The group will also advocate a 35%-renewable-by-2025 goal for Texas. Institute founder and energy-industry veteran Monty Goodell said that demand-side efficiency measures today "can save utility customers 30 percent and delay the need for new power plants until 2015" and that "the cost for zero emissions power is now less than that of building dirty, uneconomic, and unsustainable pulverized coal plants." — *Daniel Mottola*

▶ Speaking of renewable energy, the **South by Southwest Music, Film, and Interactive Festival**, co-founded by *Chronicle* Editor Louis Black and Publisher Nick Barbaro, has announced that it will go carbon-neutral this year, offsetting 100% of the climate-changing carbon-dioxide emissions created by its yearlong transportation needs and electricity use through the purchase of **renewable-energy credits** from Austin-based **Green Mountain Energy Company**. Operating director Eve McArthur said the move, initiated by SXSW's UK and Ireland manager Una Johnson (herself an environmental consultant), was made in hopes of facilitating similarly green moves for other entertainment businesses. SXSW partnered with Austin Energy to calculate energy-consumption totals for SXSW's use of the Austin Convention Center and the 70-plus venues it occupies during the event. McArthur said 2007 will serve as a baseline year, after which further CO₂ reductions will be sought. Additionally, SXSW has worked on energy efficiency at its Austin headquarters, donated \$5,000 to the Austin Parks and Recreation Department to buy and maintain native trees, plans to work with Ecology Action of Austin to recycle all waste from outdoor parties, and pledges to use biodiesel in generators and production trucks. McArthur added that SXSW 07 will offer expanded transit services to deter individual rental-car use and encourages Festival-goers to move about Austin by bike. — *D.M.*

▶ Austin Police are investigating the murder of 27-year-old **Steven D. Talley**, who was found dead, lying in the street on the 6900 block of Blessing Avenue, early on Feb. 10. Talley suffered "obvious trauma," police say, but reportedly it appears as though he was murdered elsewhere and dumped in the heavily traveled Northeast Austin street. Detectives say they believe robbery was the motive and are asking that anyone who might have seen anything suspicious in the area or who has specific information about the murder call the APD homicide tip line at 477-3588, or call Crime Stoppers at 472-8477. — *Jordan Smith*

▶ In other crime news, the **Travis County Sheriff's Office** is looking for help finding a teen suspected in the Feb. 6 robbery of the **Oasis Mart** at 12915 Dessau. The TCSO says a young man — between 16 and 19 years old, wearing a blue-and-white hooded sweatshirt — entered the store, pulled a handgun out of his pants pocket, and demanded money from the store cash register. He fled on a bicycle, likely into either the Copperfield or Harris Ridge subdivision. Anyone with information is asked to call TCSO Detective Scott Crowe, at 854-3426, or Crime Stoppers, at 472-8477. — *J.S.*

The **Corridor Council**, which focuses on regional issues along the I-35 corridor, recognizes that at the current rate of growth, someday soon this region will be Austin/San Antonio, the same way the neighbors to the north are Dallas/Fort Worth. In recent recommendations on transportation, still in draft form, a 100-member committee has urged the region to begin some regional-planning efforts similar to D/FW, such as consistent policies across the region for removing traffic accidents from the roadways. The group also supports the 112-mile Austin-San Antonio commuter rail line and the need for more east-west arterials off I-35, which appears to be a problem that plagues San Antonio as well as Austin. — *Kimberly Reeves*

▶ In other transportation news, county commissioners have begun negotiations on an engineering contract to begin extending **Frate Barker** from Manchaca to Brodie. Frate Barker has been a contentious project, primarily because of the environmental issues, but county officials promise the new alignment on the road bypasses the critical water-quality zone. To make Frate Barker truly work, however, the county will have to see other road projects put in motion, including those out of county control. Those projects include the construction of SH 45 Southwest from MoPac to FM 1626, improvements to FM 1626 from Bliss Spillar to I-35, and possibly using pass-through toll financing and upgrades to the intersections on Manchaca at FM 1626 and at Frate Barker. Manchaca itself also needs to be upgraded, both going into and out of Hays County. — *K.R.*

▶ There's a new car patrolling the streets for the **Travis County Sheriff's Office**. Outfitted with amber lights on top and the same tan paint as the rest of the fleet, its most distinguishing feature is the logo across the side reading "COPS," an acronym signaling that there are in fact no cops inside the car but, rather, volunteers for **Citizens on Patrol Services**. On the road as of Jan. 30, these new COPS won't be arresting or even confronting anyone. Instead, says Senior Deputy Vincente Galloway, they'll serve as "eyes and ears" for the department, reporting any untoward behavior they witness. The program has 10 volunteers so far, a lot of whom are retirees, and they've all attended the county's Citizens Police Academy, a program designed to teach regular people what it's like to be a sheriff's deputy. After graduating, volunteers complete 70 more hours of training specifically for COPS, learning things like recognizing suspicious activity, writing handicap citations, and performing CPR. But beyond such skills, their visibility alone should help deter crime. Armed with little more than cell phones and dispatch radios, COPS may be a thrifty alternative to keeping deputies on every corner. — *Nora Ankrum*

▶ **Samuel Zbogar**, the ambassador of Slovenia to the United States, will lace up his running shoes for the **Austin Marathon**, Sunday, Feb. 18, as part of a four-city running tour he is doing to raise funds and awareness for the rehabilitation of **child victims of land mines and other explosive devices** in Southeast Europe. Following his half-marathon outing in Austin, Zbogar will run

another half marathon in Knoxville, Tenn., in April; a full marathon in Cleveland in May; and another full marathon in Washington, D.C., in October. Organizations benefiting from his efforts are the Marshall Legacy Institute (www.marshall-legacy.org) and the Slovenia-based International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (www.itf-fund.si), established in 1998 to help solve the country's land-mine problem and to provide land-mine survivors with physical and socioeconomic rehabilitation. The U.S. Department of State is doing its part by supporting Zbogar with matching funds. For more on the Austin Marathon, see Sports in our Community Listings, p.76. — *Mark Fagan*

▶ Working to stop the needless **euthanasia of adoptable pets**, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals last week launched the ASPCA Mission: Orange program, aiming for a save rate of 75% or better for unwanted pets entering shelters in four target cities, including Austin. Despite 1997 city and county resolutions to become a no-kill city, more than half of the animals entering Austin's shelters in 2005 — 15,000 dogs and cats — were euthanized, according to the ASPCA. Local participants include the city's Town Lake Animal Center, the Austin Humane Society (a nonprofit, "no-kill" shelter), and spay/neuter clinics Animal Trustees of Austin and Emancipet. Program initiatives include mobile adoptions, improved adoption training, establishing new dog parks, promoting the use of microchips to ID lost dogs, and support of low-cost spay/neuter programs. The ASPCA has pledged up to \$600,000 over three years to Austin's program, including \$300,000 last week to Animal Trustees of Austin to create new capacity and to educate the public (especially new homeowners) about adoption. Individuals are encouraged to spay or neuter pets and consider local adoption first when searching for a new animal friend. See www.aspc.org for more. — *D.M.*

▶ February is **Black History Month**; several related events are planned throughout the city over the next several days. For a partial list, see p.76.

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

▶ The **propaganda** machine has roared to life in the ongoing war over the construction of **17 new pulverized "dirty" coal plants** (expected to exacerbate the state's already perilous pollution and global-warming situation). As Dallas-based TXU (planning 11 plants) aired TV ads explaining how its coal-fired power will "keep the monsters away" through reliable night-light illumination (maintaining energy crisis scare tactics, though they admit none of their plants will be operational before projected power shortfalls), a mysterious group known as the Texas Clean Sky Coalition began running more than \$1 million worth of newspaper ads and prominent online spots featuring sooty-faced youths above the message, "Coal is filthy." Neither Environmental Defense nor the Sierra Club, both referenced in the coalition's ads, had ever heard of the group, which has refused to disclose its members. At Sunday's anti-coal rally, the coalition's images appeared on hundreds of T-shirts distributed to attendees and on a massive, airplane-towed banner. Last week, the *Statesman* and *Houston Chronicle* reported that the ads were funded partially by Oklahoma natural-gas producer Chesapeake Energy Corp., whose board includes prominent Oklahoma Republicans. Clean Sky Coalition Executive Director Jackson Walker said members prefer anonymity to "avoid jeopardizing business, social, and political relationships," adding that many coal supporters "are pretty heavy hitters in this state." See www.cleanskycoalition.com for more. — *D.M.*



▶ Yikes, more crappy news on the **global-warming** front. According to a recent report from the National Bureau of Economic Research, "There appears to be an increase in the frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones in the North Atlantic. ... There are substantial vulnerabilities to intense hurricanes in the Atlantic coastal United States, ... [and] greenhouse warming is likely to lead to stronger hurricanes." William D. Nordhaus, author of **"The Economics of Hurricanes in the United States,"** concludes, "We estimate that the average annual U.S. hurricane damages will increase by \$8 billion at 2005 incomes (.06% of GDP) due to global warming." For more, see econpapers.repec.org/paper/nbrnberwo/12813.htm. — *Cheryl Smith*

▶ Last Sunday came the strange story that Australian Prime Minister **John Howard** bad-mouthed presidential hopeful U.S. Sen. **Barack Obama**, D-Illinois, over his Iraq policy. On an Australian current-affairs show, Howard, a fearless Bush-booster and proponent of the Iraq war, lambasted Obama's proposed withdrawal date of March 31, 2008, even raising the old chestnut that al Qaeda yearns for a Democratic victory in '08. The outburst won the Australian prime minister no friends back home (it's scarcely scientific, but four out of every five respondents to a *Sydney Morning Herald* online poll said Howard had "put his foot in it"), but the story was pimped in the conservative blogosphere like a death knell for the presidential hopeful. In any case, it's unlikely President Obama will ever meet Prime Minister Howard; his Liberal Party/National Party coalition government faces a stiff challenge from the Labor Party in upcoming elections — so he will probably not be prime minister, no matter who wins here in '08. Obama will be in Austin Friday, Feb. 23, 2pm, at Gregory Gym on the UT campus. Admission is free, but tickets will be required if anyone wants to ask him about kangaroos. — *Richard Whittaker*

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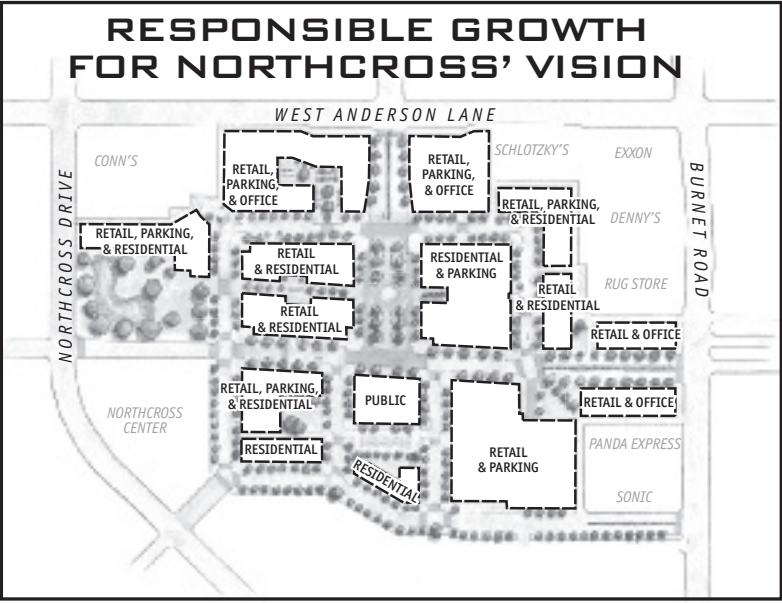
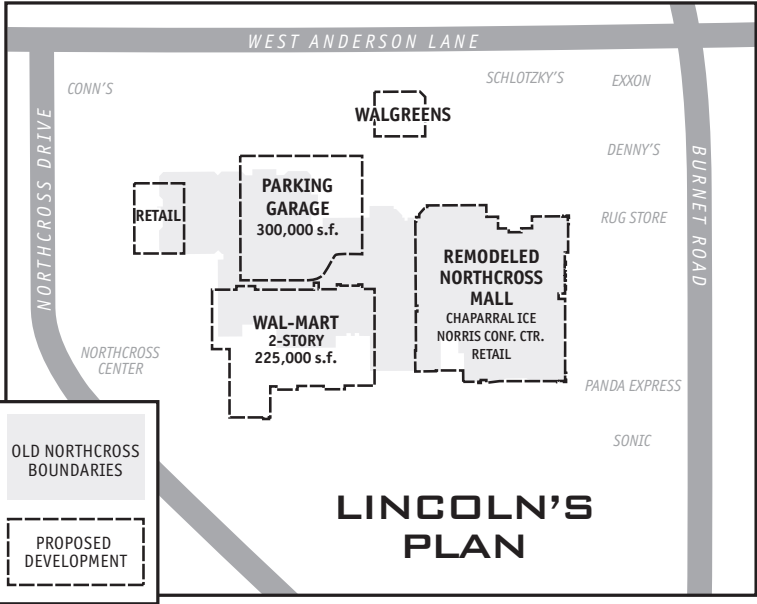
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Old vs. New

Viewing the two site plans – Lincoln’s and RG4N’s – side-by-side is like looking at 1977 next to 2007. Lincoln’s city-approved site plan is the outdated plop-in-the-parking-lot formula. It ignores Austin’s new design standards. The early RG4N site plan offers an alternative vision of “a well-designed mixed-use redevelopment [that] could apply the best of urban architecture and merchandising to integrate a variety of commercial, residential, and public uses in an appealing, people-friendly place that enhances its surrounding community.” While only the ground floor is shown here, the scheme rises three and four stories, with residences above.

DEVELOPING STORIES Bigger Than Wal-Mart

BY KATHERINE GREGOR

The quality of new development in a region should follow town-like principles – housing for a diverse population, a full mix of uses, walkable streets, positive public space, integrated civic and commercial centers, transit orientation and accessible open space.

– Peter Calthorpe, *The New Urbanism: Toward an Architecture of Community*, 1993

The coming together Saturday of at least 2,500 red-clad Austinites to hold hands in a human chain of protest – sufficient, on a cold and blustery morning, to surround the approximately one-mile street perimeter of **Northcross Mall** – provided further evidence that citizen passion against the city-approved site plan for redeveloping Northcross Mall continues to run hot and deep. As neighborhood opponents have articulated clearly, the fight isn’t just about hating **Wal-Mart**. Rather, the uprising of activism in this ordinary middle-class part of North Central Austin is fueled by a more profound sense of outrage and betrayal – and by neighborhood pride and a strong positive vision.

A fight against the nation’s most powerful retailer (fueled in part by Wal-Mart’s lack of corporate social responsibility) makes for snappy bumper stickers, T-shirts (“Wal-Mart Isn’t Weird”) and sound-bite media coverage. Certainly, the advocacy group **Responsible Growth for Northcross** has articulated one non-negotiable goal to both the city and the developer: “**Lincoln Property Company** and Wal-Mart need to abandon their plans to build a 225,085 square foot 24-hour Wal-Mart Supercenter with a 300,000 square foot parking garage.” (Until that demand is met, RG4N also called on Saturday for a citywide boycott of all Wal-Marts and Sam’s Clubs.) But to see only that aspect of the Northcross uprising is to miss the deeper civic issues at stake.

What these Austinites want and believe they deserve – from the private developer, from the city, and from their elected representatives – is **enlightened urban redevelopment**. When a major moribund mall in their neighborhood is at last to be redeveloped, they want that redevelopment to occur in accord with the best practices nationally and the city’s own new design standards. Austinites have drunk the Kool-Aid that Austin is a “Top 10” smart, cool, progressive, and prosperous city; our civic self-esteem is now so high that we expect the best in urban design and redevelopment. Unfortunately, this pivotal site is in the hands of a developer whose narrow thinking lags far behind its own industry. Even more troubling, the city of Austin is not yet practicing the kind of sophisticated and effective urban planning that could have prevented this debacle.

It speaks to the savvy of Austinites that they didn’t just shrug and accept the Wal-Mart and Lincoln site plan, that they understand what quality urban redevelopment should look like. The vision they have articulated for a revived Northcross – as shown in the design sketch pictured here – harkens to **New Urbanism**, a movement (now at least 15 years old) that revives traditional principles of building community (as summarized by **Peter Calthorpe** in the quote above). Indeed, RG4N members took it upon themselves to do what the developer (or the city) should have done – survey more than 3,000 neighborhood residents and business owners about their preferences and needs (88% said they opposed a retail supercenter), then comprehensively rework the plan to reflect those desires. They developed a consensus “priorities list” unanimously supported by five surrounding neighborhood associations and RG4N, cementing strong agreement on what that better redevelopment should look like. Neighborhood volunteers also organized a hands-on design charrette for the site, which was held independently at City Hall on Jan. 27. An appealing early vision (which reportedly could be equally profitable for the developer) based on the neighborhoods’ mutual priorities emerged from this citizens’ “minicharette” led by professional architects, urban planners, and commercial real estate professionals who donated their time. (It reflects poorly on the city that these professionals requested anonymity; according to one, they fear being blackballed by the city on future projects.)

OBSOLETE THINKING

Unfortunately Lincoln Property Co. – a huge, nationwide real estate firm – exhibits a level of urban design and planning sophistication several notches lower than that of the average **Crestview** or **Allandale** resident. The projects and properties posted on the company’s Web site reflect that, as a company, Lincoln has yet to embrace the public-responsibility aspect of the New Urbanist spirit. Its projects across the country – including the **Hill Country Galleria** and **Shops at the Galleria** in Bee Cave – fail to exemplify the best practices already considered mainstream by other profit-driven developers. For example, Lincoln’s sole listed **mixed-use** project incorporating housing (**Stone Creek Village** in Cary, N.C.) is described without a whiff of community-building idealism or any mention of sustainability but only in terms of “population flow,” “traffic flow,” and “retail flow.” The retrograde mentality of the developer is revealed by that project’s enthusiastic marketing slogan: “Watch the traffic go buy!”

By contrast, more enlightened developers across the nation who are up-to-date on competitive trends in shopping-center development incorporate sustainability, livable cities, and community as overt project goals. Those established practices are well-represented by session topics at the **Urban Land Institute’s** annual conferences on **Reinventing Retail: Community, Lifestyle, and Entertainment**. For example, from the section entitled Retail Rejoins the Community: “The

days when shopping centers were stand-alone developments surrounded by parking lots and separated from the rest of the community are fading. ... Integration is the new buzzword. Integration of shopping, housing, and offices; integration of shopping with transit. ... Integration ... builds more sustainable communities, [and] expands opportunities.” That kind of forward-thinking, mixed-use approach is precisely what RG4N’s alternative vision, and the city’s own design standards, are urging upon Lincoln at Northcross. Austinites are begging for good, dense, mixed-use urban design on the Northcross site. Maddeningly, it’s the developer who’s behind the curve here, blind or indifferent to the opportunity to create an equally profitable, yet far more sustainable, project with enthusiastic community support.

An architect who attempted to bring Lincoln into the New Urbanism light, during planning for the Shops at the Galleria in Bee Cave, found that Lincoln wouldn’t budge from an “obsolete” retail playbook that he characterized as being 15 years out of date. When the architects presented master planning concepts grounded in up-to-date “Lifestyle Mall” development trends (basically, New Urbanism repackaged as marketing),

At Northcross, the opportunity hasn’t yet been lost to produce a great redevelopment – a model of all that Austin can become, akin to the city’s plan for the Crestview transit-oriented development.

Lincoln couldn’t understand the plan or its value and rejected it. Instead, the architect recalls, **Robert Dozier** (executive vice president of the **Lincoln Retail Group** and its point man on Northcross) and his colleagues insisted on reverting to their rigid, outdated rules for developing strip shopping centers. Huge parking lots had to be out front; existing mature trees should be cut down to ensure that every store sign would be visible. Insensitive to the beautiful hilly site on the banks of Barton Creek, Lincoln reportedly told the local architects to level the property, take out every inconvenient tree, and build a standard-issue suburban strip shopping center – or they’d bring in their Dallas architect instead. **PageSoutherlandPage** stepped away from the project. The result is the depressing Shops at the Galleria, a 600,000-square-foot “power center” across Highway 71 from the far larger (and likely more

depressing-to-be) Hill Country Galleria, a 150-acre mixed-use project with housing that Lincoln is co-developing.

As Dozier proudly told *Texas Real Estate Business*: "At this intersection, more than 2 million square feet of retail is underway. It's zoned, it's entitled, and these projects will serve the fastest-growing segment of this market, effectively filling a huge void that exists there today." No mention, of course, of the **SOS Alliance's** opposition to the projects due to the sensitive **Barton Creek watershed**. Where others saw a beautiful and environmentally sensitive piece of the Hill Country, Dozier saw only ... a void.

PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY

Ultimately, what the missed opportunity at Northcross demonstrates is that the city of Austin cannot abdicate its responsibility for intelligent urban planning to the private sector. It would be ludicrous to trust deal-flippin' developers on a parcel-by-parcel basis to execute an enlightened urban plan for inner-city redevelopment. While our peer cities – such as Seattle; Portland, Ore.; San Jose, Calif.; Denver; Las Vegas; even Fort Worth – regularly update 20-year plans that address urban planning in detail, Austin does not. While our peer cities have a retinue of public planners and consultants who proactively guide and coordinate redevelopment efforts – citywide, not just downtown – Austin does not.

Certainly the city's new **commercial and retail design standards** are a huge step in the right direction. By establishing consistent, code-enforceable standards for quality, they help to ensure that future projects are better designed, more sustainable, and contribute positively to reknitting the urban fabric and Austin's neighborhoods. Yet design standards alone are not enough. Cities have a responsibility to plan – and to implement, monitor, track, and update planning policy – for the long-term, in the public interest.

At Northcross, the opportunity hasn't yet been lost to produce a great redevelopment – a model of all that Austin can become, akin to the city's plan for the **Crestview transit-oriented development**. After sending a letter to Lincoln asking to present its design charrette vision (and requesting true partnership on finding mutually satisfactory solutions), RG4N representatives at last were to meet face-to-face with Dozier on Wednesday. Assistant City Manager **Laura Huffman** has promised the neighborhoods an imminent "term sheet" of agreed-upon improvements to the site plan, the result of numerous meetings and negotiations between city staff and Lincoln and Wal-Mart representatives. Huffman said city staff, including planners, have proactively presented solutions to the developer and that "staff's goal has been to

press Lincoln and Wal-Mart to apply many of the concepts embodied in the city's new commercial design standards to this project." (RG4N's Hope Morrison expects that while those city-facilitated concessions will add some niceties, they won't address the fundamental problem of the outdated mall concept and the way-too-big Wal-Mart. As she put it, "A retail supercenter with a rainwater-harvesting system is still a supercenter.") This week RG4N is asking council and the mayor to support a city-backed, full-blown design charrette, to which all the neighbors and businesses in the Northcross area would be invited.

As has just occurred with the embattled **Concordia** site, council members also could recommend to the developer that it engage **ROMA Design Group** (or another respected urban planner) to consult on an improved site plan that meets both neighborhood and owner goals. (On council's Thursday agenda is an expenditure of another \$175,000 for outside



Despite what you might think from reading the *Statesman's* John Kelso – who was apparently too damned lazy and slow to actually show up on time – the Responsible Growth for Northcross protest was a rousing success on Saturday. The group, which is opposed to Lincoln Property's plan to build a Wal-Mart where Northcross Mall now stands, brought out enough people to completely encircle the Northcross block – an unbroken human chain lining the sidewalks of Anderson Lane, Burnet Road, and Northcross Drive. RG4N organizers estimate that the chain comprised more than 2,000 people, many from the neighborhoods surrounding Northcross.

lawyers to handle Northcross matters, including negotiations and threatened lawsuits against the city. Why not fund an urban-planning consultant to facilitate and draw up a mutually acceptable site plan – thus preventing citizen or developer lawsuits – instead?) At the very least, the mayor's highly touted new **Austin Climate Protection Plan** should mandate that Northcross be thoughtfully redeveloped for maximum long-term sustainability; that's not a big-box store, which typically has a life of about 10-12 years.

In short, our elected leaders still have the opportunity to hang tough and demand the best possible solution for the people of Austin. It's that, or ignore their constituents and allow a moribund mall to be "revived" based on outdated principles suited not to Austin's livable future, but to its unenlightened past.

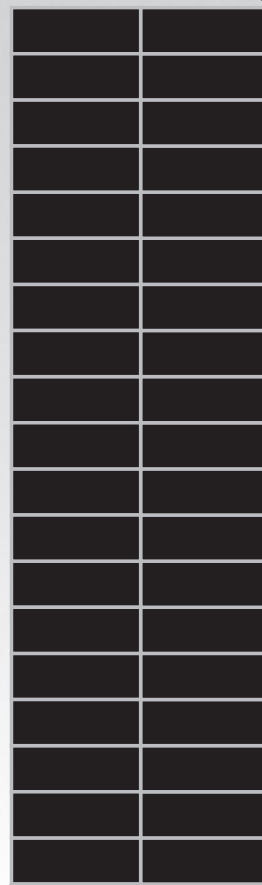
For more on Northcross and the Wal-Mart redevelopment see "Beside the Point," p.16.

CHRONIC

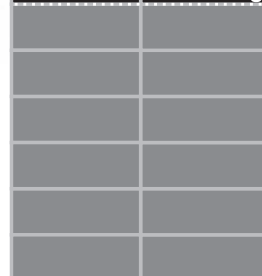
THE DEBATE OVER THE WAL-MART AT NORTH-CROSS CONTINUES AT AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/CHRONIC.

DRAW THE LINE AUSTIN.com

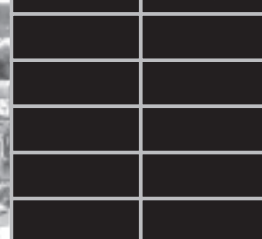
400 ft. = CBD-CURE zoning



120 ft. = DMU zoning



60 ft. = GR zoning (current)



OPPOSE THE 400 FT. TOWER AT 7TH AND RIO GRANDE

Dear Concerned Citizen,
Developers are currently seeking a zoning change at west 7th St and Rio Grande that will drop a massive, 400-foot luxury condo right next to a very special, historic area — the Original City Neighborhood. This unique neighborhood includes over 30 designated historic sites, and consists of small buildings that are only one to three stories high.

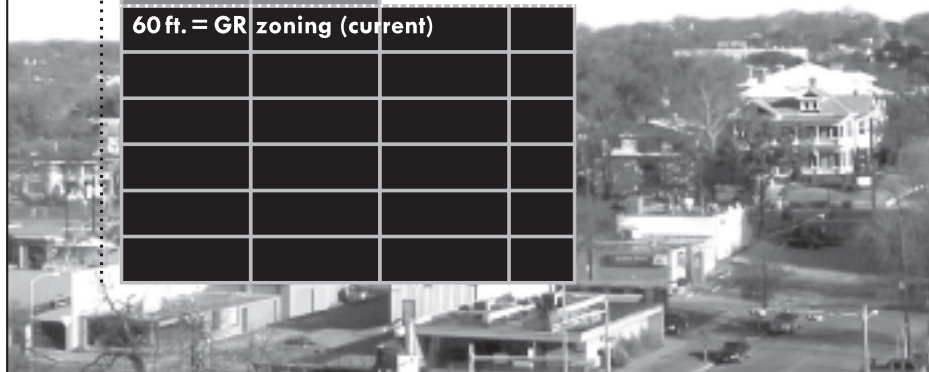
Please join us in opposing the zoning change that will allow this unprecedented and out of context development before the City's Downtown Neighborhood Plan is approved.

This is not an argument against skyscrapers in context. This is just not the right location for a project of this scale. This would be the only skyscraper North of 6th and West of Guadalupe. We are asking that the City of Austin thoughtfully and carefully design a dense urban core for Austin, ensuring that Downtown truly is everybody's neighborhood and would welcome a project that is more respectful of the existing neighborhood.

Visit www.DrawTheLineAustin.com to learn more and take action.

Join us at City Council for the Public Hearing on February 15th

Thank you!



ON THE LEGE

Texas and Sudan: In or Out?

BY AMY SMITH

A sticky political question has emerged in Gov. **Rick Perry**’s endorsement of legislation that would divest the state’s holdings in companies doing business in **Sudan**. Here’s the dilemma: Should the proposed policy also extend to the governor’s **Texas Enterprise Fund**, which last week awarded an \$8.5 million grant to a major share-holder of Chinese oil companies operating in Sudan? The short answer is a squirmy “let’s not go there.” In fair-ness to Perry and the bipartisan crew of lawmakers spon-soring the legislation, Texas is just now catching the wind of a national grassroots campaign targeting the recipient of the state grant – **Fidelity Investments** – the nation’s largest mutual fund company and a top investor in two Chinese oil concerns that help finance the Sudanese-gov-ernment-backed **genocide in Darfur**. Fidelity received the state grant as an incentive to expand its Texas operations in **Tarrant County**, and create 1,500 new jobs. Perry’s press announcement credited the Enterprise Fund with clinching the deal.

While Perry was deal-making, another Fidelity-related activity was in the works. The **Massachusetts Coalition to Save Darfur** launched its **Fidelity out of Sudan campaign** (www.fidelityoutofsudan.com) four weeks ago, and quickly captured the attention of national business maga-zines and major dailies. Boston-based campaign organiz-ers **Eric Cohen** and **Susan Morgan**, both former Fidelity investors, said in an interview that they decided to go public with their concerns about the company’s holdings after spending three months writing cautiously diplomatic letters to more than 50 company executives. They had hoped to get their foot in the door for a meeting at Fidelity’s flagship office in downtown Boston. At the very least, they wanted Fidelity officials to use their investment

pull as a negotiating tool with the **Chinese oil companies**. Instead, Fidelity responded with a form letter, worded pretty much the same as its statements to the press.

Texas is one of 20 states considering legislation that fol-lows the “targeted divestment” model created by the **Sudan Divestment Task Force** (www.sudandivestment.org), which advis-es governments, universities, and asset managers on how to sever investment ties with companies in Sudan without break-ing the bank and jeopardizing pension funds. Based on this model, mutual fund companies such as Fidelity would be spared the divestment axe under the Texas legislation, there-by safeguarding the state’s \$120-billion-plus pension funds.

The Fidelity divestment campaign Web site includes a peti-tion with a signature goal of 400,000 – the estimated num-ber of civilians killed in Darfur. “It’s hard to influence Chinese government and Chinese businesses, but Fidelity is such a large, powerful investor, they could use some of their muscle to influence those companies operating in Sudan,” said Cohen, a retired high tech executive. “That would be an earth-quake in the financial market.”

At the same time, Cohen said optimistically, “Now that Texas is a major business partner with Fidelity, the governor could use this opportunity to talk with Fidelity about being a good social citizen.”

Said Perry spokesman **Ted Royer**: “The governor encour-ages Fidelity and all other private companies to divest them-selves of any holdings they have in companies doing busi-ness in Sudan.” Royer also said Perry would consider “any needed reforms in how the Enterprise Fund is administered so we can align it with other state investments, specifically in terms of how we divest other state funds of investments in Sudan.”

Divestment activists applaud Texas and other states for taking a moral and financial stand against genocide and other atrocities in Darfur. But the Fidelity campaign seeks to appeal to the masses rather than government entities mindful of their fiduciary responsibilities to maintain healthy pension funds. “Even in cases where mutual funds are not part of the legislation, this is a way to build awareness so that individu-als can make their own choices,” Morgan said.

Authors of the three-bill Texas initiative (**Senate Bill 247**, **House Bill 667**, and **HB 419**) include **Rodney Ellis McClendon** in the Senate and **Corbin Van Arsdale** and **Ruth Jones** in the House. More than two dozen legislators have signed on as co-sponsors, and Railroad Commissioner **Michael Williams** is an outspoken advocate of the measure.

With this much bipartisan support, what could possibly go wrong? Well, there is the pesky Fidelity angle, for one. Many lawmakers don’t even want to talk about Fidelity’s dip into the Enterprise Fund because they know that if they mess with Perry’s economic development engine, they’re messing with their own legislation.

“I’m just learning about the whole issue with Fidelity, and I’m looking into it,” said Fort Worth Democratic Rep. **Lon Burnam**, a co-sponsor credited with galvanizing support for the divestment legislation. Burnam is usually an outspoken critic of the Enterprise Fund, but not this time. “I have visited with Commissioner Williams about this and he has similar concerns, which are we don’t want to lose the baby and wade into this whole other arena,” he said. “But we also under-stand that this is classic politics – better to get half a loaf than none.”

Rep. **Garnet Coleman**, D-Houston, said he supports the legislation, but the Fidelity divestment campaign has brought to light new concerns about how the state doles out incentive packages to companies. “If it’s wrong for the state through its pension plans to invest in Sudan because of human rights practices, then it’s wrong for us to support companies that continue to invest in companies doing business in Sudan,” Coleman said. “Otherwise it’s a case of, do what I say, not what I do.”

Lege Notes

► While Gov. Rick Perry hopes to conjure a reported \$29 million for his human papillomavirus immunization program, the **Texas Cancer Council** is fighting for its financial life. Last week, the House Appropriation Subcommittee on general government received a pro-posed budget for the council that slashes its funding by 7.6%, down to a mere \$6.7 million for fiscal year 2008-2009. That’s on top of a \$2 million cut over the last five years. The council uses this small budget to bring cancer awareness, education, and health projects to outlying areas badly served by other state and federal agencies. It already has a staff vacancy it cannot fill because it can’t afford to hire anyone, and now there are fears it will have to cut back its work along the bor-der. “We went down and down and down,” TCC Executive Director Sandra Balderrama told representatives, “and now the only thing left is programs.”

– Richard Whittaker

► Sens. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, and Kyle Janek, R-Houston, have reintroduced legislation that would put true accountability measures on the state’s 191 **charter school operators**. Those measures would require actual testing of students – instead of dodging the state’s accountability system by reconfiguring campuses for nontesting grades – and progress on the state’s accountability measures in reading and math. In a news conference at the Capitol on Monday, Shapiro said it was time to get rid of the bad actors and reward those schools that per-form well. The best charter school operators – the ones that top the state’s accountability rating system for two years – would be given incentive payments for school facilities and broader latitude in creating new charter campuses.

– Kimberly Reeves

► Nothing spells a legislative year like a nice Austin-centric fight at the Legislature. This year, it’s the Travis Co. commissioners who will be the culprits, as they seek to alter the **Capitol view corridor**. Nothing is firm yet, but county officials are looking seriously at using the empty tax assessor-collector office for the new civil courthouse building. That means altering the Wooldridge Park Capitol view corridor. That doesn’t bother the Parks Board much, but it has the Texas Historical Commis-sion and Heritage Society of Austin up in arms. Both were on hand at Tuesday’s Commissioners Court meeting to give stern grandmarmy words of opposition to any change to the view corridors. Commissioners will likely make a decision on seeking the exemption – and finding a bold soul in the local delegation to carry it – by early next month. – K.R.

► Rep. Harold Dutton, D-Houston, has again filed legislation to reduce the **criminal penalties** associated with the possession of **small amounts of marijuana**. HB 758 would reduce possession of up to 1 ounce of pot to a class C misdemeanor (punishable by up to a \$500 fine only) and would downgrade the possession of up to 2 ounces to a class B misdemeanor (punishable by up to 180 days in county jail). Possession of up to an ounce could net jail time, but only when a defendant has been popped and convicted of minor possession three times within two years. Nationally, marijuana-related arrests have sky-rocketed over the last decade, reaching an all-time high of nearly 800,000 in 2005, according to FBI statistics released in September. Of those, nearly 88% were for simple possession; 75% of those arrest-ed were under 30. HB 758 mirrors pot decrim legislation Dutton filed in 2005, and although that bill received a generally favorable hearing in the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence, it ultimately lan-guished without enough votes to move forward. For now it’s unclear whether Dutton’s latest reform effort will face better odds of passage: Lawmakers have made it clear they want to be smarter on criminal-justice issues, and to cut costs associated with a bloated prison system – goals that would be achievable, in part, by reducing the number of inmates locked up for low-level drug and alcohol offenses. Yet, with the departure from the Capitol of veteran Austin lawmaker and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee Chair Terry Keel, the chairmanship has been turned over to Rep. Aaron Peña, D-Edinburg, who hasn’t exactly been progressive on pot-related issues. In 2005, Peña pro-posed laughable legislation to ban the sale of lollipots, candies con-taining marijuana-derived extracts (such as those from the plant’s flow-ers), saying the candies – which are imported with FBI and U.S. Customs approval and have been sold in the U.S. for nearly a decade – were nothing more than a means to “entice our children into a life of illegal drugs.”

– Jordan Smith

► **Families USA**, a national health-care watchdog group, has named Austinite **Anne Dunkelberg** one of the Consumer Health Care Advocates of the Year. Dunkelberg, associate director of the Center for Public Policy Priorities, was honored for her work on behalf of moderate and low-income Texans. She is one of the state’s leading health-care experts. Previous Texans who have received the Families USA award include Reps. Elliott Naishtat, D-Austin, and Garnet Coleman, D-Houston. – A.S.

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Berkshire Hathaway (Warren Buffet)	Fidelity Advisor New Insights Fund
Merrill Lynch & Co. Inc.	Calamos Strategic Fund
China Petroleum & Chemical Corp (SNP)	SNP
Wellington Mgt. Co. LLP	Vanguard Specialized Energy Fund
Fidelity Corp.	Fidelity Contrafund Inc.
Thornburg Investment Mgt. Trust	Harding Loevner Funds
Renaissance Technologies Corp.	Icon Energy Fund
Harding Loevner Mgt.	Variable Insurance Products FD
	Source: Yahoo Finance

TAXPAYERS CONTRIBUTE TOO

On Feb. 7, Gov. Rick Perry awarded Fidelity an \$8.5 million grant from the state-financed Texas Enterprise Fund to expand existing operations at the company’s Tarrant Co. campus. Fidelity will invest more than \$200 million in the expansion, creating more than 1,500 new jobs, according to the governor’s announcement.

Transportation Funding Friction

Tuesday should have been a gold star day at the **House Transportation Committee**, one that would finally put the **Texas Department of Transportation** and the **Texas Transportation Institute** in the same room at the same time to duel it out over the long-term scenarios for how to pay for the cost of highways in Texas.

Instead, a couple of lawmakers – first Rep. **Linda Harper-Brown**, R-Irving, and then Sen. **John Carona**, R-Dallas – turned **Texas Transportation Commission** Chair **Ric Williamson** into a human piñata in their frustration over Texas **toll roads**. First, Harper-Brown, a long-time Irving City Council member, berated Williamson over a document – which Williamson unwisely called “foolish” – that indicated that Dallas received \$4.5 billion



Rep. Mike Krusee, R-Round Rock, navigates turbulent transportation terrain in the Legislature.

less over the last five years for transportation funding than it would have under the past system of parceling out federal funds, often referred to as the “fair share” system.

As state Rep. **Mike Krusee**, R-Round Rock, and others explained it, federal funding has changed. Once, it was based on where the TTC chair lived and how he could earmark funds for his region. A Dallas chair would be named, and funds would shift to Dallas. A Houston chair would be named, and those funds would shift back to Houston.

Under the new funding formula – which is intended to localize transportation decision-making and decrease the “begging” of regional delegations before the TTC – the focus is not how to spend available money, but how to address the transportation plans of a particular region, Krusee said. According to the numbers, the biggest beneficiary of this approach has been the Austin region.

Later, Krusee gave Carona, the chair of the Senate Committee on Transportation & Homeland Security, a chance to address some comments to Williamson. Carona pressed Williamson for a meeting this week, saying Williamson’s office said he was booked through March. Williamson, never one to be backed into a corner, attempted to brush off the request, saying simply that he’d call Carona’s office to set up a time for a meet-

ing. It was not a meeting, Williamson said, but simply a call to set up a meeting.

“It is this kind of lack of commitment and artful dodging for something as basic as an appointment to meet with you [that] causes the hostility and the friction that exists right now,” said Carona, who has filed some distinctly anti-toll-road legislation this session. “The fact that you would sit there and be so arrogant that you would not even commit to a meeting date when I’m telling you that over the next several days I’ll be available at any time that will work for you is very troubling.”

To this, Williamson could only say, “Thank you.” When pressed again for a commitment for a meeting, he replied, “Frankly, senator, I’m speechless.” The confrontation was the talk around the Capitol. Most long-term observers were nonplussed. “There’s a reason why we used to call him Nitro Williamson,” said one former colleague-turned-lobbyist.

As to the difference between the projections of need by TxDOT and the Texas Transportation Institute – TxDOT says the state would need a \$1.40 **gas tax** to cover the gap; TTI says it would require a 10 cent gas tax increase plus ongoing increases indexed to highway costs – the numbers are closer than they might appear on first blush.

As both Williamson and TTI’s **Dennis Christiansen** pointed out, the assumptions in the two reports are different. While both start with the same general level of need – an additional \$86 billion in new roads by 2030 – TTI assumes that local jurisdictions will pick up a third of that cost, through toll roads, local-option gas tax, or simply general revenue expenditures backed by property taxes. The two reports also tinker with issues such as the fuel efficiency of fleet vehicles and other such numbers.

The bottom line on the TTI report projects that the gas tax on the \$56 billion in identified needs – the initial 10 cents plus increases as needed – would be about 90 cents a gallon by 2030. The highest rate in the country right now is 33 cents.

– Kimberly Reeves



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Democrats’ Suit Demands State ‘Fix’ Voting Machines

The **Texas Democratic Party** has filed a lawsuit alleging that the **Hart InterCivic eSlate electronic-voting machines** record votes improperly and seeking an injunction prohibiting the machines’ use until the alleged flaw is fixed. If it can’t be fixed, the suit requests that the eSlate be prohibited from use in any further elections. Hart InterCivic is an Austin-based company, and the eSlate is the standard voting machine used in Travis Co. and 101 other Texas counties.

The complaint centers around the way eSlate handles a particular straight-party voting situation: Sometimes, after marking “straight party,” voters who favor a certain candidate then go down to that candidate’s name and mark it again, to “emphasize” their vote, as TDP Chairman **Boyd Richie** put it. However, doing so on an eSlate machine causes the candidate to be deselected, or cancels out that selection and records no vote in that race. Richie charges that this violates laws requiring that election systems must reflect the intent of the voter and that all election systems must count votes the same way – while “emphasizing” a candidate by marking his or her name on a write-in ballot would get counted, such votes cast on an eSlate would not.

The suit actually targets Secretary of State **Roger Williams**, who is responsible for certifying election systems for use in Texas.

“As the state’s chief election officer, Roger Williams is responsible for upholding the integrity of our electoral process,” Richie said Tuesday. “However, by certifying voting systems that actually ignore voters’ choices, the secretary of state has failed to perform the most basic function of his office – ensuring

the fairness and accuracy of our elections. I call on Secretary Williams to restore the rights of Texas voters by reprogramming the eSlate machines to accurately record voters’ choices or discontinuing their use altogether.”

TDP attorneys **Chad Dunn** and **Buck Wood** said the situation was discovered during a



recount of a judicial race in Madison County, where they discovered what appeared to be an inordinately high number of races marked “no selection” on a sample of ballots that also had straight-party votes selected.

Secretary of State Office spokesman Scott Haywood said

that Williams had not had time to review the suit but believes that “eSlate operates in accordance with Texas law.” At the end of voting, Haywood said, voters are presented with a summary screen that lets them review whether their choices have been accurately recorded. But Wood charged that voting patterns indicate that this summary, as well as a warning given to voters before voting, are not enough to prevent “less sophisticated” and elderly voters from making the mistake.

Asked to comment on the suit, Hart InterCivic spokesman Josh Allen replied, “Hart is not a party to the lawsuit. The eSlate fully complies with federal and state election laws. It’s certified with federal and state bodies, and it securely, accurately, and privately records votes. Hart will continue to ensure that the eSlate and all of its voting products meet the regulatory requirements that are designed to ensure the sanctity of each voter’s ballot, even as those regulatory requirements change, in order to increase security and accuracy or for new regulations as regulatory bodies see fit.”

– Lee Nichols

HAPPENINGS

For more details on the following, and other events this week, see Community Listings, p.72.

Friday, Feb. 16
ALTERNATIVE RADIO: MOLLY IVINS recorded discussing her book *Bushwacked: Life in George W. Bush’s America*. 2pm. KOOP 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

Saturday, Feb. 17
GARLAND GREGORY, political-science teacher who studied under Barbara Jordan and author of *When Nigger Became Chic*, will speak. 2:30-4:30pm. University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

HARVESTING OUR YOUNG, the ninth monthly gathering of the African American Men & Boys Conference. 10am-2pm. LBJ High School, 7309 Lazy Creek. Free. mrloftontalkshow@sbcglobal.net.

JAMES FARMER’S FREEDOM RIDE, a short film narrated by the founder of the Congress of Racial Equality. 11am, 1, 3pm. LBJ Library & Museum, 2313 Red River, 721-0200. Free. www.lbjlib.utexas.edu.

MASS MARRIAGE DAY Come on out to City Hall Saturday for a mass marriage ceremony (four-tier wedding cake and music included), and ring your wedding bells loud and clear in support of the right to marry. 2-4pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second.



Heidi and Allison, a couple for six years, attempt to apply for a marriage license and are turned away at the Travis County tax office, 55th and Airport, in Austin.

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WHEN RELIGION BECOMES EVIL Author Charles Kimball speaks on Understanding Islam Today: What in the World Is Going On & Why. 6pm. First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity, 476-2625.

Sunday, Feb. 18

LAST SUNDAY This monthly gathering focuses on Iraq and dominance in U.S. policy, with Jim Hightower, Ana-Maurine Lara, Bob Jensen, and the Rev. Jim Rigby. 6-8pm. Saengerrunde Hall, 1607 San Jacinto. Free. www.thirdcoastactivist.org/lastsunday.html.

WOMEN OF AFGHANISTAN DURING & AFTER THE TALIBAN Austin photographer and writer Peggy Kelsey's myth-dispelling presentation. 11:30am-12:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. www.kelseys.net.

Sunday, Feb. 18

DEMOCRACY FOR TEXAS screens the documentary *The War Tapes* (see Special Screenings, p.94). 7pm. Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, 474-1958. Free.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

LAWRENCE LESSIG, Stanford law professor, *Wired* columnist, and one of *Scientific American's* Top 50 Visionaries, speaks at 7pm. Hogg Auditorium, West 24th & Whitis, 471-1444. Free (passes available at Texas Union ticket office).

Wednesday, Feb. 21

KLRU SPARK ENGAGING SPEAKER SERIES, with journalists Maria Hinojosa and Ray Suarez. 7:30pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$43.50. www.klrutv.org/spark.

Thursday, Feb. 22

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Tort-Reform Folly

Back in 2003, 71-year-old **Alvin Berry** of Copperas Cove went to the doctor for a routine prostate screening. He was told his antigen levels were elevated, so his doctor referred him to a urologist for a follow-up. The urologist, however, told Berry not to worry. Seven months later, Berry's antigen levels had skyrocketed – he had developed **prostate cancer**, and it was too late, the cancer had already spread to his bones. He was given five years to live.

Unfortunately, reports the consumer-advocacy group **Texas Watch**, in 2003 Berry had also voted in favor of **Proposition 12** – the sweeping “**tort reform**” package that severely limited the ability of individuals to avail themselves of the legal process and to sue in cases of medical negligence (what tort reformers – read, **insurance companies** – prefer to call “frivolous lawsuits”) – and with its passage, discovered that now he was left without the ability to seek legal redress for his doctor's deadly oversight. “We'd voted on something,” Berry told *Texas Monthly* in 2005, “and we really didn't know what the facts were.”

To hear Gov. **Rick Perry** tell it in his State of the State speech last week, the facts are that things in the land of tort reform are just peachy, thank you very much. Texas is “perched at the forefront of a new era of prosperity,” he said.

“Frivolous lawsuits are down, as are insurance rates for homeowners and doctors. Thanks to medical liability reforms, hospitals are once again able to recruit specialists whose expertise can mean the difference between life and death.” Apparently, Perry wasn't talking to Alvin Berry.

According to a new Texas Watch report on the state of Texas' tort-reform measures, Perry's promises that frivolous lawsuits and high medical-malpractice insurance rates are down, and that the recruitment of specialists is on the rise, are just promises that haven't panned out. In fact, it appears that the opposite may in fact be true. Since passage of Prop. 12, malpractice insurance premiums remain inflated. Texas Watch Executive Director **Alex Winslow** notes that from 1999 to 2002, insurance premiums had ballooned as much as 145%. In the years since Prop. 12, premiums have come down, but only by about 13.5%, Winslow notes, meaning they're still artificially high. “Clearly,” he says, “doctors are still paying too much for their med-mal premiums,” and what “marginal reduction” there has been has had “little to do with Proposition 12” but have been part of a natural market adjustment – at least in part stemming from the outrageously high premiums charged in the preceding years.

And, contrary to Perry's reassurance, the number of counties without specialist doctors – and particularly those without access to an obstetrician – has actually increased since 2003. Currently, 156 counties – more than 60% of all Texas counties – do not have a licensed obstetrician. That bit of news is stunning, considering the emphasis tort reformers placed on access to obstetricians in their politicking for Prop. 12. “This is one of the most striking things we encountered” when preparing the report, Winslow said. “This was one of [the Prop. 12 supporters'] main talking points” – that out-of-control lawsuits, leading to out-of-control med-mal insurance rates, were at the heart of the obstetrician shortage. If that were true, Winslow says, we wouldn't be worse off today than we were before Prop. 12. At the heart of the problem, Winslow suspects, is that smaller counties with higher indigent populations and less up-to-date technology are hard-pressed to lure qualified specialists – including obstetricians. As such, instead of the sweeping tort-reform measures, it might have been wiser to concentrate resources on solving the **indigent-health-care** crisis – as it stands, 25% of Texas' population is uninsured, and prohibiting access to legal redress does nothing to change that. At press time, Perry spokesman **Ted Royer** wasn't available for comment.

– Jordan Smith

National Spotlight Shines on Detention Center

Williamson County commissioners may be living to regret that the county's former overflow jail, the newly infamous **T. Don Hutto Residential Center**, did not invoke immediate self-scrutiny once it was converted to a federal detention center in December 2005. Things are getting dicey at the **Immigration and Customs Enforcement**-affiliated facility, which is fielding national scorn and shock over alleged mistreatment of detainees, especially with respect to the practice of incarcerating children. About 400 people from 30 countries are reportedly awaiting the outcome of deportation proceedings at TDH, some of whom are seeking asylum.

Last Friday, ICE held an open house at TDH, so to speak, which was attended by major news outlets and human-rights organizations such as the **American Civil Liberties Union**. Based on conversations with detainees, the ACLU may file suit citing “grave concerns” and a myriad of incivilities. After the tour, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that TDH personnel confiscated a child's teddy bear and that she slept in an 8-foot-by-15-foot cell. Though TDH had set out its finest plastic plants and served pizza the day of the event, it is unlikely any such niceties could quell fears about living conditions or mitigate knowledge of such heartbreaking actions toward a child. TDH defenders told the press that keeping families together was the humane course and that living quarters were dormlike, and the menu even fattening. And, on the county level, Commissioner **Lisa Birkman** maintained that detention classrooms look like the real thing in the real world. (TDH recently announced, after complaints, that the center's one-hour school days will be expanded.)

What a difference a year has made, as this big bang of bad press was foreshadowed by nary a whimper on Dec. 27, the day the Commissioners Court ratified the contract with **Corrections Corporation of America**, which would serve as the “provider” with WilCo the sponsor and ICE the regulator. Before the vote, Sheriff **James Wilson** and Assistant County Auditor **Julie Kiley** soft-peddled the deal as relatively easy money, which would require not much more than a signature and net the county about \$200,000 per year. According to the contract, however, WilCo is liable for much more than that: detainee education, medical care, and transportation to anywhere in the world, as well as guard service. Nonetheless, WilCo commissioners celebrated the Taylor jobs saved, and tax-base preserved, by the deal. At that point, just more than a year ago, the local press announced the arrangement without questioning it, and the county did little more than cash the checks – until detainees voiced concerns, that is. Only last month did commissioners themselves tour TDH – again, under pressure. Essentially, the facility received hardly a glance from county government until detainees spoke up.

Eventually, the courts may decide whether T. Don Hutto has been guilty of civil rights violations. Unless vindicated, WilCo will remain – at least in the court of public opinion – the county that jails innocent children for a cut off the top.

– Patricia J. Ruland



U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, celebrated Hindu-style last Sunday at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Austin Hindu Temple & Community Center at 9801 Decker Lake Rd. For more on the temple and center, see www.austinhindutemple.org.

Prevention First

U.S. Rep. **Louise Slaughter**, D-N.Y., along with 106 co-sponsors, filed legislation on Feb. 5 that would expand funding for family planning, create grants targeted at programs that reduce the incidence of teen pregnancy, require health insurers to include contraceptive coverage, and ensure rape victims have access to emergency contraceptives, regardless of their ability to pay. The **Prevention First Act of 2007** calls for \$700 million in spending for family-planning programs – money that's allocated among the states, which in turn funds individual providers.

Slaughter's legislation contains a long list of findings – including that more than 17 million women need financial assistance to afford reproductive health-care and contraceptive services, that the U.S. has the highest rate of infection with sexually transmitted diseases of any industrialized country (about 19 million new cases of STD infection in 2005, with direct medical costs as high as more than \$14 million per year), and, notably, that for every dollar the feds spend to increase funding for family-planning programs, there is a \$3.80 savings.

As such, the PFA would forbid group health plans and other health-insurance programs

from excluding or restricting “benefits for prescription contraceptive drugs or devices” that are Food and Drug Administration-approved. The bill also directs the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** to “develop and disseminate” medically accurate information about **emergency contraception** (a high dose of regular birth-control pills, designed to prevent pregnancy when taken after unprotected sex) – including that emergency contraception “does not cause abortion.” The bill would also withhold any **federal funding for hospitals** that fail to make emergency contraception available to rape victims, regardless of their ability to pay.

Finally, the legislation directs federal health officials to design a program of **competitive grant awards** designed to expand teen-pregnancy-prevention programs. It would bar groups pushing abstinence-only education from receiving funding, however, by requiring, in part, that grantees use the funding to implement prevention programs that are proven to work to prevent teen pregnancy and to delay adolescent sexual activity, “on the basis of rigorous scientific research.”

The full text of the bill, **House Resolution 819**, is online at thomas.loc.gov.

– J.S.

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MEDIA WATCH

Musical Managerial Chairs at KEYE, Emmis

BY KEVIN BRASS

KEYE staffers were hit with a double whammy last week: The **CBS** affiliate was sold to a private equity firm, and news director **Tim Gardner** announced he was bailing to take a job in Birmingham, Ala. He'll be replaced by assistant news director **Suzanne Black**, which should make for an "easy transition," according to station general manager **Amy Villarreal**. Black was hired as assistant news director in 2005, after a six-year stint as news director at the WB affiliate in San Diego, which dropped its news department a few months after she left. As soon as she arrived in Austin, the perennially gossipy tongues of local TV news staffers began wagging that Gardner was on the way out, considering Black's experience as news director in a much bigger market than Austin. More than a few noted that the KEYE newsroom seemed unusually top-heavy in executives who were getting paid to sit around and think deep thoughts. But Gardner stayed on, even after general manager **Mike Reed** was abruptly dumped by CBS last May. Now he's leaving to take a similar job at **WVTM**, Birmingham's **NBC** affiliate, a job he says he "couldn't pass up." Gardner grew up in Alabama, graduated from the University of Alabama, and still has family there. His first job in the business was at WVTM. "It was going back home," said Gardner, who will leave on Feb. 23, a week before the end of the current sweeps period. In his six-year tenure at KEYE, Gardner oversaw a complete makeover of the news department, transforming a station widely regarded as the deformed stepchild of local TV news. Under his leadership, the station went on an unprecedented spending

spree, blowing off big bucks on a new set, digital equipment, an expanded Web site, and, most noticeably, the hiring of longtime local anchors **Judy Maggio**, **Ron Oliveira**, and **Fred Cantú**. Gardner is viewed as a "serious news guy," which in the world of TV news translates as incessant crime news and "in-depth" reports on topics like this month's feature on "lip plumpers." Under Gardner's reign, the station's news ratings have steadily increased, but there's been no rush to watch KEYE newscasts, despite all the cash poured into the product. If nothing else, Black appears to understand the task at hand. "Our challenge is getting viewers to watch television news," she said. Her challenge will be complicated by the sale of the station to **Cerberus Capital Management**, the private equity firm, which has agreed to pay CBS Corp. \$185 million for KEYE and six other stations. The deal represents the first foray into broadcasting for Cerberus, the 15-year-old firm with investments in everything from airplane leasing to Burger King franchises. Cerberus boasts that it develops "undervalued" companies, suggesting that it sees something missing in KEYE's economics, a secret value that only it can nurture and grow. That should worry KEYE staffers, considering that there are few ways to build value in a local TV station. One way is to increase advertising revenue, but that won't be easy, as any of Austin's wild-eyed, flesh-eating staff of television advertising professionals can attest. The only other way to find that darn missing "value" is to keep a lid on expenses. Suffice it to say

Under news director Tim Gardner's reign, the station's news ratings have steadily increased, but there's been no rush to watch KEYE newscasts, despite all the cash poured into the product.

that growing the news budget does not increase value. But cutting the number of rolls of toilet paper in the employee's bathroom goes right to the bottom line, so to speak. That's how equity firms traditionally operate, which is why KEYE staffers might be excused for spending a few nights sleeping in flop sweat, despite all the happy talk from management. Villarreal believes her new equity firm employers understand the importance of investing in the product. "You have to be a player in local news – that's the future of TV," Villarreal said. "And they're big believers in that." Villarreal notes that KEYE was a minor cog to CBS but that it will be the "flagship" station for the fledgling broadcast company. A staffer at Cerberus' public-relations agency said no one from the firm would talk about the local TV business, which speaks volumes about their views about the news media. She would only offer a written statement assuring that, "Cerberus believes in the viability of local television and believes this is a good investment that also makes good strategic sense for the stations" – just in case anyone thought Cerberus thought it was a bad investment.

More than a few local media peons spewed their morning lattes last week when they read the *Austin Business Journal's* list of nonprofit executive salaries, which showed **KLRU-TV** Executive Director **Bill Stotesbery** making \$170,577 to shepherd the perennially troubled public broadcasting affiliate... There's been a management shake-up of sorts in the local office of **Emmis Communications**, parent of **KGSR**, **KLBJ**, and **101X**, among others. The new operations manager for the FM stations is **Thomas Chase**, who most recently served as program director for a cluster of stations owned by **Clear Channel** in Tulsa. KGSR program director and local icon **Jody Denberg** is now content manager of KGSR and will relinquish some of his management duties. And **Jeff Carroll**, formerly operations manager of the rock stations, is now toiling as acting program director and afternoon deejay of **KLBJ-FM**.

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REEFER MADNESS

Corporate America, say hello to your new partner, NORML

BY JORDAN SMITH

Question: What does a Texas small-business owner have in common with a former associate attorney general, friend of Bill – and convicted, then pardoned, felon – Webster Hubbell? Answer: The **National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws and life insurance.**

To hear NORML Executive Director **Allen St. Pierre** tell it, the story of Hubbell, NORML, and one of its Texas members goes like this: About a year ago, a Texas NORML member called up the organization's Washington, D.C., office with a problem. He was ready to expand his small business, but the bank – in order to secure additional funds – was requiring that he up his life insurance. This is pretty standard, sure, but the small-business owner is also a casual pot smoker and, as such, wouldn't be able to pee in a cup and come out clean, so, ultimately, his carrier told him that he would be uninsurable unless he gave up toking.

This was not an option for our man from Texas, so he called NORML, and NORML rang up its insurer, **Webster Hubbell**, who, since leaving politics, has gotten into the risk racket, working with the D.C.-based **McLaughlin Co.** Ultimately, the Texan secured his additional life insurance through Hubbell – via colleague **Marvin Address**, who is working as the pot-smoker insurance broker – and, according to an audio clip of Hubbell posted to the NORML Web site, he was actually able to lower the premiums on the other policies our small-business owner was already holding. That success was enough to convince NORML and Hubbell to pursue the matter further, and some six or so months later – after crunching numbers

and pouring over actuarial tables – Hubbell and NORML convinced two underwriters to take on the job of writing affordable life-insurance policies for any responsible, “moderate” pot smoker. The plan, says St. Pierre, is to “stop the denial of people getting coverage because it is so profoundly unfair.” At least, he said, casual pot smokers shouldn't have to pay more for insurance than a tobacco user. (Indeed, St. Pierre said that one of the underwriters – whose name he declined to reveal – will write life insurance for a pot smoker at a lower rate than for a tobacco smoker.)

St. Pierre notes that there's a growing need for affordable life insurance for pot smokers: While the feds may still consider pot the evil weed, 12 states have decriminalized it, and 11 have enacted laws legalizing and/or protecting medi-pot smokers. NORML will be looking to “make the market” this year – that is, to sign up enough tokers for the new life-insurance plan to prove there is, indeed, an underserved population off which insurers can make money. If that happens – St. Pierre says it'll take writing between 200 and 400 policies this year to establish the market – NORML, with partner Hubbell, will actually be able to expand into the disability and health-insurance markets.

“NORML uniquely supports cannabis consumers,” Hubbell says in his audio pitch. And the “time is right to make traditional insurance products available” to pot smokers, he says. “Help NORML, and help yourself.”

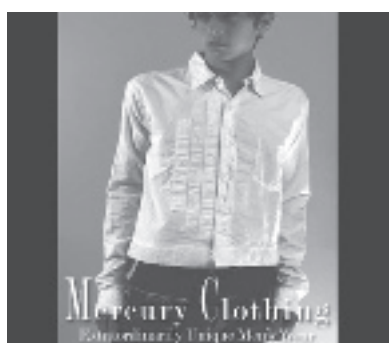
But wait! There's more! As if getting into the life-insurance game weren't mainstream enough, NORML also announced last month that it has teamed up with software designer **Jian** to offer a model corporate **human-resources policy** that covers **off-the-clock marijuana use**. The policy – an “enlightened” employee marijuana policy – recommends that employers treat after-hours pot use in the same way as after-hours alcohol use. Jian, which sells software packages for small businesses, will add the new pot policy to its **Employee Manual Builder** program, which is designed for use by company human-resource managers to aid in writing employee

manuals. The policy (available at www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=7161) discourages random drug testing, which may detect traces of marijuana days after use, and says employees “are free to make their own lifestyle choices when not in the workplace or otherwise on company time,” but it also prohibits on-the-job intoxication or consumption of “alcohol or other intoxicants.” Indeed, says St. Pierre, traditional zero-tolerance employee marijuana policies have done nothing to differentiate between use and abuse. “We're making a distinction between out-of-workplace use” and at-work use, he said, in an attempt to get away from the idea “that moderate [pot] use on a Saturday is somehow dangerous [at work] on a Monday. There's just no evidence of that.”

NORML's Allen St. Pierre notes that there's a growing need for affordable life insurance for pot smokers: While the feds may still consider pot the evil weed, 12 states have decriminalized it, and 11 have enacted laws legalizing and/or protecting medi-pot smokers.

As with NORML's life-insurance endeavors, the time is right to rethink corporate policy on pot use, especially in light of the growing number of **medi-pot patients** who use marijuana in compliance with state laws. The new policy, St. Pierre says, “is reflective of evolving medical-marijuana laws” and is part of a move to “create policies that are general, and not ephemeral, and that speak to the needs of people living within prohibition.”

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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

THE WORKPLACE BODY SNATCHERS

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg is learning the hard way that workers don't like bosses snooping on them.

Hizzoner the Mayor has taken \$180 million from the city's meager treasury to buy a state-of-the-art electronic system to track the comings and goings of city employees. He has already introduced the spy system in one agency, and it has created an uproar of protest, particularly over forcing employees to have their hands electronically scanned every time they enter or leave their work pods. Called biometrics, this system digitally records workers' hands, faces, irises, and other unique body parts, then uses their uniqueness to track them like sheep.

The mayor's spokesman says workers should be grateful, for this computerized system lets administrators monitor each employee's attendance, time, and leave more efficiently. Oh, well, OK then – if it's more efficient, feel free to take my handprint, or why not just implant an electronic tag in my brain? (Before you scoff at that last item, let me note that nurses in a Brooklyn hospital are already required to carry radio-frequency ID tags that allow all of their movements to be tracked.)

The mayor's wholesale invasion of workplace privacy is made more outrageous by the fact that top managers are exempt from the digital scanning. Also ranking is that this biometrics contract went to SAIC, a corporation infamous for doing high tech snooping on us citizens for the Pentagon and CIA.

We have to resist autocracy at every turn, especially when its only rationale is greater "efficiency." After all, in these modern times, the devil always does his work in the name of efficiency. So, stand up for what is yours – as one city worker says of Bloomberg's scheme, "The body of my person, which includes my palm, belongs to me, and me alone. It is private."

RUMMY WON'T GO AWAY

Old soldiers never die; they keep hanging on as consultants.

Actually, Donnie Rumsfeld was not a soldier – he just played war at the Pentagon, using real soldiers to work out his neocon, ideological fantasies about nation-building in the Mideast. And what a heck of a job he did! Some 3,000 Americans died on Rumsfeld's Iraq watch, some 22,000 have come home maimed, as many as 600,000 Iraqi civilians are dead, 2 million have had to flee their country, and the U.S. tab for this misadventure now totals at least \$1.2 trillion.

Meanwhile, the Iraq economy is a nightmare, the so-called "constitutional democracy" that the Bushites fabricated is a joke, the Shiites and Sunnis are at each other's throats in a gruesome civil war, our soldiers are trapped in the nightmarish crossfire of that civil war, the country has largely become a theocracy aligned with Iran, Iraq is now a terrorist training ground, and America's moral reputation around the world has been reduced to rubble.

So, after voters emphatically rejected the Bushites' war folly in last year's elections – Rumsfeld was made to walk the political plank. But, wait – who's that skulking in the shadows of the Pentagon, clutching sheaves of top-secret papers? Why, it's Rummy! Supposedly, he was fired by Bush, but there he is in a government-provided office, working for the Pentagon as a "non-paid consultant" – a status that lets him keep getting secret documents.

And he's not alone in his bunker. He has two military officers, two enlisted men, and three other staffers working for him – all paid by the Pentagon. Word is that Rumsfeld thinks he still has "a lot to contribute" to policy debates over new ideas for Iraq and national security.

If so, do it on your own dime! You've been fired, Rummy – don't go away mad, but please do go away.

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Left Behind

AISD moves to close Webb Middle School – and to transfer the ‘merchandise’

BY MICHAEL MAY

It’s third period at Webb Middle School, and seventh-grade English teacher Patrick Harboure is at the blackboard, listing everything that’s different between the United States and the home countries of his students, who are all recent immigrants enrolled in the English Language Learners Academy, or ELLA. Harboure is an Argentine and, like most of his students, a native Spanish speaker. But when he’s in front of this class, he speaks in steady, enunciated English, with only the slightest accent. Meanwhile, his

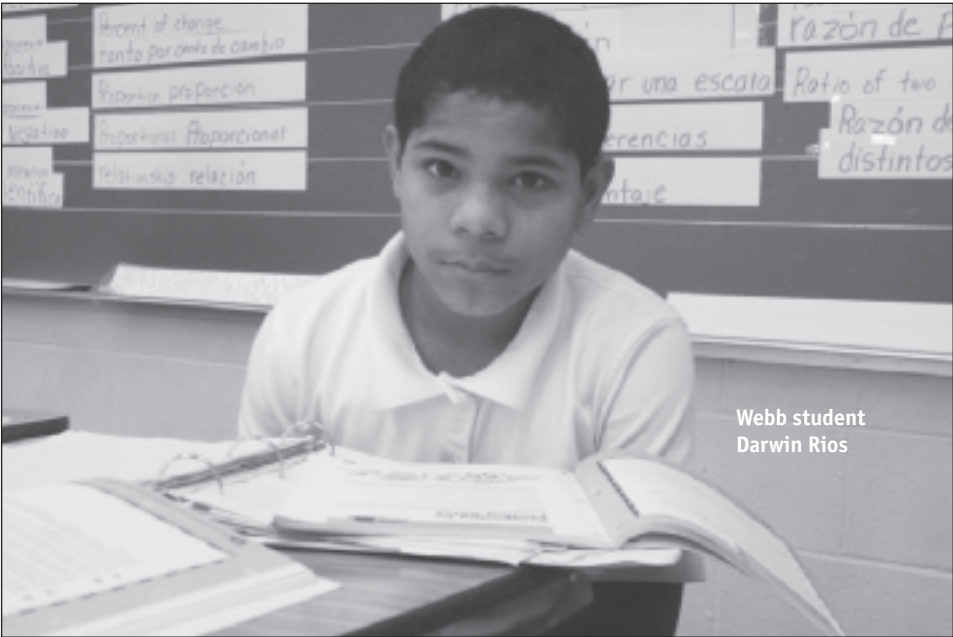
“We adults couldn’t do what the state is asking. There are university students that come here and take intensive English courses for a year and then fail their English-proficiency exams.”
– Ruben Alvarado, ELLA

students grope for words, mutter Spanish under their breaths, and giggle with embarrassment when called upon. Still, the students slowly add to the list on the blackboard: The language is different here; the schools have computers; you have to pump your own gas. He asks the class if there are any laws that are different in the United States and calls on one of the students, Mañuel. “Here, if you don’t come to school,” Mañuel pauses, and the class starts to giggle. “Ayyy. *Que es eso?*” He rests his head on his arm. “The exact word doesn’t matter,” says Harboure, a mix of encouragement and irritation in his voice. “Explain the law to me.” “If you don’t come to school,” Mañuel begins again, “it has a law you have to have an

excuse to bring to school that is the cause that you didn’t come to school.” It’s the closest thing to a full sentence I’ve heard from a student in nearly 15 minutes. Harboure is pleased. “So, if you don’t come to school, you need an excuse,” he reiterates. “In Argentina, if you don’t come to school, nobody cares.” The class laughs uproariously at this assessment. “Is it like that in Mexico? Honduras? Cuba?” Yes, the students nod in agreement. Before they came to the United States, these students had never heard of parents being tracked down and fined when their children don’t show up for school.

Moving the Target

In the past few weeks, Webb students have learned of another unforgiving state law: If more of them don’t pass the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test – in English – by the end of this school year, then Webb will be rated “low performing” for the fourth year in a row, and the Texas Education Agency could decide to close the school or have a private company or other district take over the management. Webb is one of only five schools in Texas that have failed the standards for three years in a row. But there are another 38 schools that have missed two years, and, as the state’s standards get tougher, many more will surely follow. Webb is a test case, and its current predicament illustrates a dark irony that reverberates downward from the District of Columbia through Austin and back again. The state’s accountability system, designed (in theory) to ensure the highest standards in all schools, paradoxically appears in practice to be punishing the very students it was most designed to help. The Texas system, which became the model for the federal No Child Left Behind Act and

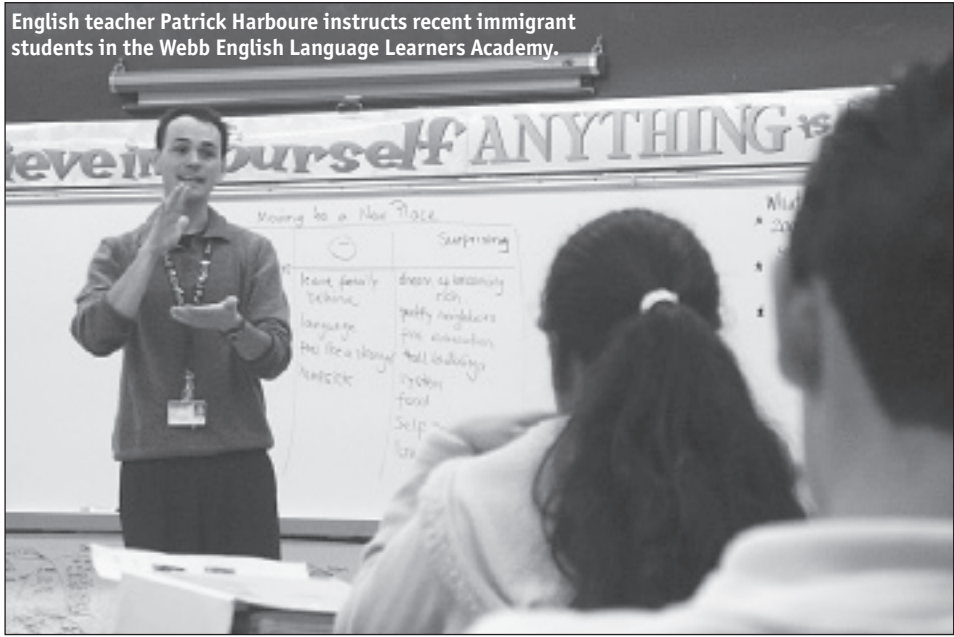


program, is based on the concept that all schools and all students should be held to the same standards. It’s a noble goal – why shouldn’t a school in West Lake Hills be held to the same standards as a school in East Austin? (Always allowing for the impolite but open secret that the academic and community resources in West Lake and East Austin are hardly comparable.) The designers of the TAKS test now cleverly parse out (“disaggregate”) the data at each school according to ethnic and economic groups in order to make sure that teachers cannot simply lavish attention on the students most likely to pass the test and thereby derive a high average score unreflective of student inequities. Under state and federal standards, a school is deemed low-performing if any one subgroup fails to meet state standards, whether it consists of African-American, Hispanic, or economically disadvantaged students. The five schools in Texas that have been rated low-performing for three years in a row are all in urban areas. “This doesn’t mean that these are the worst schools,” says TEA spokeswoman Debbie Ratcliffe. “Rural schools tend to be more homogeneous and are often rated on just one group. Urban schools have more diversity. If you have

over 30 students in one ethnic group, you will be rated separately in that category. That means urban schools do have more hurdles to cross.” And the state raises those hurdles every year. It’s not enough that Webb has improved in most categories each year; the TAKS bar has continued to rise out of reach. Webb is a typical inner-city school, which means it has students in every category taking several tests, which leaves the school with 26 separate ways to fail (see chart below). • In 2004, the students at Webb actually met the standards on the TAKS test – but then the state decided that students who didn’t make it

continued on p.32

“I’m just getting used to things here; I don’t want to have to start over at another school. I think I’ll have a better future at Webb.”
– Darwin Rios



HIGH STAKES TESTING

Mark the group and year for which the standards were not met in each category:										
	ALL STUDENTS		AFRICAN-AMERICAN		HISPANIC		WHITE		ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED	
READING	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
MATH	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
SCIENCE	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
SOCIAL STUDIES	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
WRITING	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006

If Webb Middle School is rated “low performing” for a fourth year in a row, the Texas Education Agency could decide to close it. Webb students must pass in each of the 25 categories or “cells” (involving combinations of student groups and areas of study), meet rising standards each year, and stay below a maximum “dropout rate” for the whole school. In 2004, the TEA ruled that former Webb students who did not show up for high school (ninth grade) would count against Webb as dropouts for that year – leading to the first year’s low-performance rating for the entire school and the clock ticking toward potential closure.

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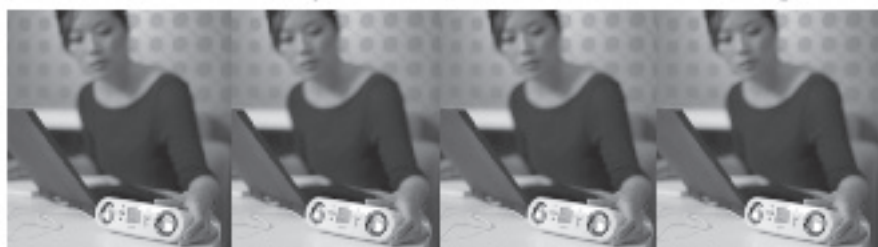
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to high school were to be reported as middle-school dropouts, and several Webb students hadn't shown up for ninth grade. Because of that subgroup, the state rated the whole school low-performing.

- In 2005, the school's African-American and economically disadvantaged students did not meet the standards for reading, and African-American students also fell below the math standard.

- In 2006, Webb's African-American students showed dramatic improvement on the TAKS test. But the student body as a whole, as well as Hispanic and economically disadvantaged students, failed to meet standards on reading and social studies.

The tests certainly identify a school's problem areas, but a closer look reveals that the Legislature's mandated solution – closing the school – is more of a whip than a salve.

Out the Window

Ruben Alvarado has been working at Webb since it opened 15 years ago, and he's now the director of ELLA. He's watched the school change from a mixture of African-American and

English-speaking Hispanic students to a population that is largely recent immigrants or the native-born children of immigrants. The Austin Independent School District opened ELLA seven years ago, and it now includes about 120 immigrant students who have recently arrived in the U.S. It's challenging to teach these kids English and simultaneously make certain they don't fall behind their peers. Yet Alvarado is not at all fatalistic about these children's future. "You'd be surprised," he says. "These students do catch on fast."

The problem is they aren't catching on nearly fast enough to meet state standards. The TEA used to allow students with limited English to be exempted from the test for several years, but under pressure from the federal No Child Left Behind system, the state has changed the rules. Now students who have been at school at least a year must take the tests *in English*, regardless of how well they speak the language. Yet educators say it takes most people at least seven years to become fluent. "We adults couldn't do what the state is asking," says Alvarado. "There are university students that come here and take intensive English courses for a year and then fail their

English-proficiency exams. So it's hard to expect these kids to do that." Alvarado says about 30% of the ELLA students that took the English reading test passed, which is "pretty good," considering they've been in the country less than three years.

The students in the ELLA program get some of the most intensive language preparation in the district, so it's hard for them to understand how closing the school could somehow be to their advantage. Darwin Rios, a keen-eyed 13-year-old who arrived from Honduras about six months ago, is already confident enough to read English word problems in front of his math class – even if he doesn't understand all the words. He lives very close to Webb and worries about his future if the school closes. "It's not fair that they're thinking of closing the school," he says in Spanish. "Here I have teachers that I like. Here I have goals. I'm just getting used to things here; I don't want to have to start over at another school. I think I'll have a better future at Webb."

Rios takes advantage of Webb's Saturday tutoring, which helps students prepare for the TAKS test, but Alvarado says many students don't have the time. "A lot of our students' parents are working two or three jobs and expect these kids to take care of their younger siblings after work," he says. "I feel sorry for these students, but I also have to impress upon them that they must improve at school and pass the test, and we are here to help them do that. Still, it's tough. If they're not here, we can't help them."

The 120 students in ELLA get intensive help learning English, as well as in the TAKS-test content areas. The program is provided to



Ruben Alvarado, English Language Learners Academy

students who have just arrived from another country – but, unfortunately, these are not the only students at Webb struggling to learn English. In fact, nearly half the students at the school have limited English, and most of those students are not getting any remedial language classes.

It may be startling to learn that many middle-school students who've been attending Austin schools since prekindergarten are still unable to take a test in English. The bilingual

Forgione's BEST-Laid Plan for Closing Webb

On Feb. 5, Pat Forgione told the AISD board of trustees that Webb Middle School should close – regardless of how the students perform this spring on the TAKS test. "Even if Webb meets the standards this year," he said, "my recommendation doesn't change." Forgione argues that closing the school will provide the district a facility either for a new all-boys academy or an international school and will allow the district to concentrate its resources on just three Northeast middle schools (Pearce, Dobie, and Garcia). The board had deferred until May a decision on Webb's future. He laid out a 10-point plan for the Northeast schools, which he's calling the "BEST" plan, for "Belief in our students," "Effort creates ability," "Supporting families," and "Targeting college."

1) Establish "Sixth-Grade Clusters" in Each School – It can be hard for students to move from elementary to middle school. The sixth-grade clusters would aim to ease the transition, by housing the youngest students in a separate wing and giving them a more supportive environment. The clusters would, in effect, be their own school, although they would still have access to schoolwide electives like band and foreign-language instruction.

2) Implement Academic BEST Practices – This system, already in use, uses assessment tests to pinpoint specific academic needs of individual students, whom the school can then provide with an extra period of English or math, reading help, or afterschool and Saturday instruction. The district will also continue to provide summer literacy and math academies for the students who fail the TAKS test.

3) Provide Leadership Academy/Summer Camps – These camps would bring selected students together to help establish a "culture of high academic and behavioral expectations for the whole student body." The students would work together at the beginning of the new school year and, in general, set an example for the school.

4) Create Teacher/Parent/Family Connections – The district plans to develop spring and summer orientation sessions to let staff get to know students and their families. The district would like principals and key staff members to be visible in the community. Parents would be provided with opportunities to further their own education through school-initiated community partnerships.

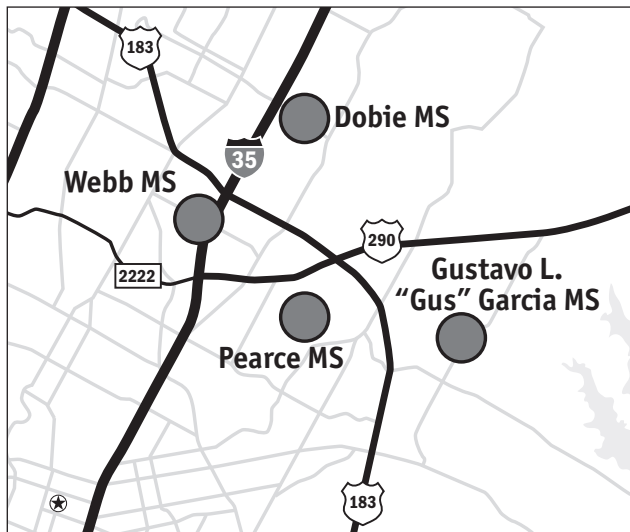
5) Implement Best Practices for English-Language Learners – The Webb English Language Learners Academy, which provides intensive instruction for first-year immigrant students, will continue at all three schools, which will also provide specialized instruction for all English learners to develop their ability to read, write, and discuss texts in "academic English."

6) Create a College-Going Culture – The BEST schools will prepare students for college by creating the thinking habits, note-taking skills, and work ethic necessary to succeed in college. They'll also provide information about higher education and the availability of financial and practical support and promote college visits and outreach programs.

7) Provide Professional Development for Teachers – Core teachers would attend a summer professional development academy to learn "research-based strategies" in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and the best practices to support English-language learners.

8) Establish Incentives for Staff – The district would provide additional compensation in order to recruit, retain, and reward experienced teachers at high-needs campuses.

9) Build Strong Relationships – The BEST schools would implement or expand these programs: Advancement Via Individual Determination, which takes average students and helps them with advanced studies through a daily elective; Where Everybody Belongs, which provides support to students in their first year of



AISD Superintendent Pat Forgione wants to close or "repurpose" Webb Middle School and focus more resources on Dobie, Pearce, and Garcia.

middle school; Advisory Classes, where students meet with an adult for academic guidance; Ready for College, which follows students through high school and helps prepare them to succeed in college; Leadership Conferences for African-American and Hispanic Youth, which would bring community members, parents, school staff, and students to provide mentoring opportunities and role models.

10) Align Vertical Team Strategies – The BEST schools aim to cultivate close relationships with LBJ and Reagan high schools, where most of their students will attend. The schools will share "community engagement and constituency building activities" and will look for ways the middle schools can implement parts of the high school redesign strategies.

– M.M.

programs at Austin's elementary schools are designed to give immigrant students English skills while instructing them in content areas like math, science, and social studies. But the state's accountability system, unaccountably, has given elementary schools a perverse incentive to keep children learning in Spanish – it gives elementary students the option of taking the test in Spanish.

I first met fifth-grade bilingual teacher Stacey Smith in 2003, when I was reporting a story about Pickle Elementary, a feeder school for Webb that had just opened in a beautiful new facility in the St. Johns neighborhood. The school hadn't had a chance to fail any TAKS tests yet, and Smith was enthusiastic about the potential of the school staff to help these struggling immigrant students and the neighborhood as a whole. In the years since, Pickle has struggled to meet state standards, and every time I've seen Smith, she seems more despondent. She finally had to take a break this year, largely because of the pressure of the testing system.

"It's just demoralizing," she says. "At the beginning of the year, I have a plan about how I'm going to work English lessons into all my instruction, to make sure these kids are learning the language as well as the content. And then, in November of every year, we have the kids take their benchmark TAKS test, and when the results come back, everyone freaks out. You go into emergency mode. You think, 'OK, these kids are taking the test in Spanish, so they need more instruction in Spanish.' And everything I'd planned all summer goes out the window – again."

The strategy does allow the school to meet state standards – Pickle Elementary was rated "academically acceptable" last year – but it sets the students up for failure when they reach middle school and have to take the TAKS test in English. "It's like everybody wants everything all at once," says Smith. "It is theoretically possible to teach kids both English and content simultaneously, but it takes time and a lot of support. We have yet to see what's successful in the TAKS world we live in."

The problems facing Webb, and all three of the current Northeast Austin middle schools, can seem overwhelming, so it's important to note that many of the students are succeeding. Webb eighth-grader Celia Gutierrez is being raised by her two older brothers, both in their 20s, after their mother died. She says she's passed the TAKS test, but it hasn't been easy. She credits the support she's gotten from her favorite teacher and says that students just need someone they can turn to for help. "That's what I needed," she says. "I found it, and my grades improved."

Running the Numbers

In January, AISD Superintendent Pat Forgione called a community meeting at Webb to announce that he planned to close the school at the end of the year. Hundreds of parents packed the Webb cafeteria, many wearing headphones providing a simultaneous Spanish translation of the superintendent's speech. Forgione argued that shutting down the school would be in the students' best interest, since the state could decide to close the school in

continued on p.34

"A Doctor's Confession to the City of Austin..."

And why, despite all, I still help people live pain free...

Dear friend,

Confessions are tough, real tough. But, sometimes a confession can set the record straight, and I want to give credit where credit is due. Before I talk about my confession, though, let me say a few other things first. Let me start by explaining the photo in this letter. I'll start with me, the guy on the left.

Something happened to my mother that changed my life forever. My mom told my dad, *"If God has plans to take me tomorrow, I wish he'd just take me today."* At the time I was studying to become a physical therapist. My mom was experiencing neck and shoulder pain. She tried medication, physical therapy and acupuncture without results. I was worried that she would have to live with this pain for the rest of her life.

My mom realized that traditional medicine had nothing more to offer when her medical doctor said the pain was all in her head. She finally made an appointment with a chiropractor. Within a short course of treatment, she was pain-free. I was so inspired and excited about the miracle that occurred, I decided to become a chiropractor.

Can chiropractic help your children? The baby in the photo is Delia, my niece. At two weeks old, she spent most of her days with clenched fists and her knees to her chest. She spent her nights in discomfort—she wouldn't sleep and would vomit often. My frightened sister and brother-in-law brought Delia to her pediatrician. He said she had heartburn and prescribed baby Zantac. She was then brought to a homeopathic doctor who confirmed she had colic. The natural remedies gave her some relief but Delia still couldn't have a bowel movement without pain. At eight weeks old, she received her first chiropractic adjustment. Instantly she had a bowel movement. After six more adjustments, her colic and constipation disappeared.

The boy in the photo is Nick, my nephew. He started experiencing seizures a year ago. An EEG showed spiking brain waves. My brother and his wife



were scared that he would have to be on medication the rest of his life. I treated Nick for two months before his next EEG. The results were remarkable –no more spiking brain waves, which meant no more medicine!

Here's what some of my patients had to say:

"I was diagnosed with fibromyalgia in 1995...I couldn't do things most people take for granted... I recently returned to the work force." (S.W).

"I've been like a new person! No more pills. No more nausea, headaches, or abdominal pain." (P.H).

"I had headaches every day...I haven't had a headache in two weeks." (K.H).

Several times a day patients thank me for helping them with their health problems. But I can't really take the credit. **My confession is that I've never healed anyone of anything.** What I do is perform a specific spinal adjustment to remove nerve pressure, and the body responds by healing itself. We get tremendous results. It's as simple as that!

Being a chiropractor can be tough, because there's a host of so-called experts out there. They tell people a lot of things that are just plain ridiculous about my profession. But the studies speak

for themselves, like the Virginia study that showed that 99% of patients who saw a chiropractor were satisfied with their results. That's just incredible!

Forty-five million Americans **no longer have health insurance**, and those who do have found that their benefits are reduced. That's where chiropractic comes in. Many people find that they actually save money on their health care expenses by seeing a chiropractor. Another way to save...studies show that chiropractic can double your immune capacity, naturally and without drugs. The immune system fights colds, flues, and other sicknesses. So you may not be running off to the doctor as much. This is especially important if you are **self-employed**. And, an entire week of care in my office may cost what you could pay for one visit elsewhere.

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June and leave the district scrambling to find spots for students and teachers. “We just don’t have the resources to serve these students at Webb,” said Forgione. “We have kids coming into sixth grade that are testing at a second-grade level.” The superintendent proposed the district take proactive action and move the students to Pearce and Dobie middle schools – both schools that are also rated low-performing by the state.

The parents of Webb students didn’t see how that plan was going to help their children learn, never mind that it seemed a sure way to make certain that Dobie and Pearce would be in the same predicament in a year or two. The meeting lasted until almost 11pm, with a seemingly endless succession of parents, teachers, and students demanding that the district keep their neighborhood school open. Ilene Jones, a recent Louisiana transplant and the mother of a Webb eighth-grader, set the rhetorical tone early in the night. She seemed to channel a lifetime of anger at the public schools

“We just don’t have the resources to serve these students at Webb. We have kids coming into sixth grade that are testing at a second-grade level.” – Pat Forgione

directly at Forgione, with a cafeteria-quaking sermon that accused the superintendent of ulterior motives and bureaucratic indifference. “You want to bus our children to other schools as if they were merchandise,” said Jones. “Our children are not merchandise!”

In the week following the meeting, a group of neighborhood activists from the St. Johns neighborhood began to meet and organize an official response. Alan Weeks, vice president of the St. Johns Neighborhood Association, summed up the neighbors’ perspective. “The accountability system was meant to force the district to improve the school,” says Weeks. “Fire the entire staff. Cherry-pick the best teachers, and bring them in. It’s a strategy that makes some sense. But kicking students out of their neighborhood school? That’s purely punitive. It makes no sense.”

The parents and neighbors seemed to share a pervasive sentiment that there was more behind the decision than test scores. They were right. The district had raised \$35.8 million dollars in the 2004 bond package to build Garcia Middle School, a state-of-the-art facility in far Northeast Austin designed to hold 1,100 students. The problem with the plan is that the school is due to open next year – and the expected numbers of students aren’t enrolling there. If AISD keeps Webb open, they will have four middle schools in Northeast Austin operating under capacity, which is not only expensive for the district but makes it difficult to offer the full range of extracurricular activities in those schools.



Webb parent Ilene Jones speaks at a school meeting: “Our children are not merchandise!”

Paul Turner, director of facilities for AISD, says the district’s projections were off by approximately 290 kids – not enough to force the district to close a school. But the district did not anticipate the number of students that would transfer out of the Northeast middle schools by choice – 211 at Dobie and 275 at Pearce. “No Child Left Behind allows students to transfer out of schools that aren’t meeting the standards,” he says. “And the district also has a very open enrollment system. The end

result is that Dobie and Pearce have each lost students to other schools in the districts where parents feel more comfortable. It’s kind of depressing when you look at the number of students leaving those schools.” In other words, the feds and the district have allowed students – likely the strongest students – to leave struggling schools, leaving those campuses that are much likelier to fail.

Forgione has another reason for closing Webb as a middle school – it would leave the

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district with an empty building. Forgione says he'd like to open a young men's leadership academy at Webb, to complement the district's Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, which will open in Porter Middle School next year. "We have to look forward to the next 50 years of this district," Forgione said. "We can utilize Webb to create a jewel in this district, something new and beautiful. The state's data shows us that the high school test scores for African-American and Hispanic boys are lagging 5 to 10 percent behind the girls' scores. We need to get ahead of the curve."

The plan is almost identical to what the district has done with Porter – close a failing, under-enrolled campus and turn it into a specialty school. But there's one significant difference. The Porter community, comparatively speaking, accepted its fate with resignation, while the St. Johns neighborhood is putting up one hell of a fight. AISD board of trustees President Mark Williams came to both public meetings at Webb, and the experience left an impression. "It made me realize that we have to decide what is in the best interests of the students," he said. "Not just what is in the perceived best interest of the district. I feel bad that we are making a decision that may not be good for these kids and could also hurt kids at other schools."

But Williams doesn't see an obvious solution to the low test scores at Webb. Schools with Spanish-speaking populations have succeeded in the Valley but with a much more homogeneous population and a wealth of bilingual teachers. "We may have to start looking at

something entirely different," he says. "We're now held accountable, but the country hasn't changed the education model for 50 years. We need to understand that different kids are in very different circumstances. For instance, many of these kids don't have parents at home to help with homework. They need a lot more attention. We could try elongating the school day, but then you face the transportation issue – all of our buses are rotated on a specific schedule between all of our schools. And you might have parents saying it's unfair that my child has to stay later. And where would the district get the resources? If you put more resources into Webb, they have to be pulled out of somewhere else."

A major transformation is not on the horizon. After the public forums, Forgione reacted by tweaking his proposal. He is currently suggesting the district wait until May 2008 to close Webb, although incoming sixth-graders would start instead at Dobie and Pearce next year. He's also recommending a host of changes at those campuses, such as creating sixth-grade clusters to ease the transition and instituting a summer school to help the students catch up. (See "Forgione's BEST-Laid Plan," p.32.) It's an acknowledgement of the enormity of the problem, but it's hard to imagine that it will be enough. The federal accountability system expects 100% of the students to pass the test by 2014, and the state is steadily raising the TAKS standards by 5 to 10% a year – no matter if the student's parents work at Dell or recently swam across the Rio Grande with a backpack and a gallon of water. ■

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The Question of Iran

BY MICHAEL VENTURA

The major nations hated but tolerated the United States' invasion of Iraq. Their interests were not directly threatened, so they could afford toleration. China, in particular, subsidized the Bush invasion with substantial loans, because it's in China's interests for the U.S. to lose credibility, overtax its military, and undermine its economy through such debacles as Iraq. Iran, however, is a very different story, and, for some reason, that story is not being told.

The information is available in newspapers, yet even columnists for those papers – and every politician, military analyst, and TV commentator I'm aware of – seem ignorant of crucial facts. They speak of Iran within the storyline the White House has established – Iran's interference in Iraq, Iran's development of nukes, Iran's extremism toward Israel, Iran's support of Hezbollah and Hamas, and Iran's desire to be the major player in the region – the familiar (and largely true) headlines, all of which seem to be leading to a U.S.-Iran confrontation. But Iran is not Iraq.

For starters, Iran is nearly four times Iraq's size, with more than 2½ times Iraq's population. And Iran is, well, Persia – an ancient yet urbane culture with a rich history and a profound national identity. Iraq, by contrast, was created for exploitation by England and the League of Nations after World War I and consists of sects and tribes traditionally hostile to one another. Iraq was a crippled state when the U.S. invaded in 2003, yet after four years, we are far from able to dominate it. Given Iran's size, population, and culture – plus the depleted resources of the U.S. military – there's not much America can do to Iran but bomb, and (as “shock and awe” tactics proved in Iraq) bombing will not subdue or even much change Iran. But it could change the United States, very much.

Military action against Iran is not likely to be tolerated by Europe, Russia, and China. Unlike Iraq – and whether or not a delusional White House will admit it – Iran is a player on the world's stage, a country in which the major nations have huge interests.

Russia is solidly in Iran's corner, for obvious strategic reasons. “Iran has the world's second-largest proven reserves of conventional crude oil, after Saudi Arabia, and the second-largest reserves of natural gas, after Russia. ... Together, Russia and Iran control almost half the world's proven reserves of natural gas. If they coordinated production and marketing decisions, those two countries could be twice as dominant in international gas markets as Saudi Arabia is in the global oil market” (*The New York Times*, June 20, 2006, p.17). “President Vladimir V. Putin said ... Russia would consider OPEC-like cooperation with Tehran on sales of natural gas. [Putin said,] ‘We think that the people of Iran should have access to modern technologies, including nuclear ones’” (*The New York Times*, Feb. 2, p.10). Russia is already building a “large” nuclear power plant in the Iranian city of Bushehr (*The Christian Science Monitor*, Dec. 27, 2006, p.1).

Then there's China. “At the end of 2004, China became Iran's third-largest export market for oil. Total Chinese investment in Iran's energy sector could exceed \$100 billion over the next 25 years. China is negotiating a deal to invest as much as \$16 billion in developing Iran's Pars natural-gas field despite strenuous U.S. objections” (*The Christian Science Monitor*, Jan. 20, p.13).

“Some 45% of China's oil imports from January to November of last year were from the Middle East” (*The Economist*, Jan. 13, p.37). China's energy needs are enormous and growing; it wants no further destabilization in the region.

As for Europe, U.S. demands for an economic boycott of Iran have been ignored. “Italy, Germany, France, Spain, Austria, the Netherlands, Sweden and Britain all [have] extensive business dealings with Iran, particularly in energy. ... European governments provided \$18 billion in government loan guarantees for Iran in 2005. ... In addition to buying oil from Iran, European countries export machinery, industrial equipment, and



commodities [to Iran]” (*The New York Times*, Jan. 30, p.1). Even Pakistan and India are getting into the act. “President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan visited Iran [on Jan. 29 to discuss] a natural gas pipeline between Iran and India, which would cross Pakistan. India's foreign minister ... is expected to be in Iran [soon] to discuss [the project]” (*The New York Times*, Feb. 6, p.8).

In short, Iran is a hub of major commerce involving the core energy strategies of Russia, Europe, India, and China.

Russia's President Putin has taken his stand with Iran, referring in the strongest terms to “our Iranian partners” (*The New York Times*, July 16, 2006, p.1). The Europeans, too, have been sending unmistakable signals disapproving of U.S. foreign policy in general. “[With investigative help from Spanish police], a prosecutor in Munich indicted 13 CIA officials last week for kidnapping a

German of Lebanese descent. ... Europeans have steadily refused to accept the concept and phrase, ‘war on terror.’ ... Last week European Union officials in Brussels sought to reduce the amount of information given to U.S. agencies on air passengers leaving Europe. An official in charge of data protection for the European Central Bank similarly advised that [the level of financial information] being sent regularly to the US ... is ‘unacceptable.’ ... In Italy, prosecutors put out warrants several months ago for 25 members of a CIA team that abducted a Muslim cleric” (*The Christian Science Monitor*, Feb. 5, p.1). In the sign language of diplomacy, this is strong stuff but not stronger than France's President Jacques Chirac saying “he would not be overly worried if Iran obtained a nuclear weapon” (*The New York Times*, Feb. 2, p.8). That article goes on to report that Chirac “said aloud what some policy makers and

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arms control experts have been whispering: that the world may have to learn to live with a nuclear Iran." Later Chirac backtracked, but in the most blasé way, claiming "he had spoken casually and quickly ... because he believed he had been talking about Iran off the record" (*The New York Times*, Feb. 1, p.1). In the language of diplomacy, that's no retraction. If anything, it's a confirmation.

But it is the Chinese who've denounced U.S. policy most strenuously. On Feb. 2, *The New York Times* printed on p.6 what should have been a front-page story: "A senior Chinese government official [Ye Xiaowen] issued a rare public rebuke of President Bush ... accusing him of waging a 'unilateral' battle against terrorists that had worsened global tensions. ... In a front-page article in the overseas edition of *The People's Daily* [Mr. Ye wrote that] Bush's past references to a 'crusade' and to 'Islamic fascism' were verbal gaffes that revealed his effort to turn the fight against terrorism into a religious war. ... 'The more [Americans] oppose terrorism, the more terror they produce.' ... Mr. Ye wrote that Bush had effectively 'hijacked' one religion, Christianity, to engage in a battle against one, Islam. ... [Casting] aspersions on an American president by name [is] a step often considered a breach of diplomatic etiquette." "The comment was unprecedented in a state where official decorum is rigidly maintained" (*The Christian Science Monitor*, Feb. 5, p.1).

In diplomatic terms, China fired a shot across America's bow. In more ways than I have space to note, China has the power to cause an economic downturn, even a sudden recession, in the U.S. — especially if the European Union and Russia are on board. All are sending the strongest signals that Iran may be the line they draw in the sand against Bush.

Maybe they're bluffing. Maybe they're not. Either way, they've gotten Washington's attention. Four days after China's statement, *The Christian Science Monitor* reported (Feb. 6, p.1) that "the Bush administration is signaling a more cautious tone toward Iran. ... Senior officials from the White House, State Department, and Pentagon are playing down the evidence the U.S. possesses of 'nefarious' Iranian involvement in Iraq's spiraling violence ... insisting the U.S. wants to work out problems with Tehran diplomatically. ... [There's been] a repeated delay in a promised presentation of evidence against Iran."

In his *New York Times* column of Feb. 1, David Brooks wrote that, at the Davos economic conference, "some Europeans apparently envisioned a post-American world." Brooks' next sentence: "Forget about it." Don't. Thanks to Bush and his enablers, the world is very, very tired of us. If they have the will, China, Russia, and the EU have the means to hobble our economy. They'd take an economic hit in the process, but it might be worth it to them. If Bush doesn't back off on Iran, the world may change in ways that most Americans still find unthinkable. ■

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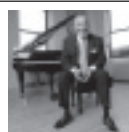
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CAROLINE RHEA w/Roy's Dinner	10/5

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STANLEY JORDAN w/Bistro 88 Dinner	6/24
STRUNZ & FARAH w/Roy's Dinner	7/20
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the arts

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CULTURE FLASH!

• For FronteraFest, playwrights **Greg Romero** and **Marc Frost** had to tailor their scripts "Radio Ghosts" and "A Modern Day Duel," respectively, to Hyde Park Theatre's small stage and the Short Fringe's 25-minute time limit. But that was nothing compared to what they had to do for Specific Gravity Ensemble's current environmental theatre project: Their plays had to be under two minutes and fit in an elevator. The Louisville, Ky., company – headed by Artistic Director Rand Harmon, a UT grad – solicited plays that could be performed while riding to the 15th floor of Louisville's historic Starks Building, and Romero's "New Orleans: December 26, 2005" and Frost's "Hands" were among the 24 that made the cut. Response to Elevator Plays' first two weeks was so strong that the run has been extended through Feb. 24. For more information, visit www.specificgravityensemble.com.

• **Kelley Caleb Hunt** won a national storytelling contest sponsored by MySpace, TNT cable network, and the Moth, a New York-based nonprofit dedicated to the art of storytelling. Hunt's comical yarn about responding to an online job posting for an "international vegetable courier" was judged best-in-show by a panel that included *Six Feet Under*'s Lauren Ambrose and humorist Andy Borowitz of the *Borowitz Report*. (Hear the story yourself at www.myspace.com/mothstories.) Hunt was flown to New York Jan. 23 to experience a live Moth event and in August will compete against other contest winners from both coasts in the StorySLAM for the national crown. Closer to home, he just completed a run of Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit* with the Way off Broadway Community Players. Be on the lookout for the Moth's national tour in Austin at the Alamo Drafthouse Downtown on May 3. For more information, visit www.themoth.com.

• **Regine Basha**, co-founder and associate of Fluent~Collaborative and Arthouse adjunct curator for the last three years, is one of the six jurors who gets to choose the winner of the \$50,000 Hunting Art Prize this year. The award by petroleum corporation Hunting PLC will go to a Texas-based artist who is 18 years or older. The winner will be announced on April 28. For more information, visit www.huntingartprize.com.

• **Ted Ollier**, a co-founder of the visual-arts collective *Ars Ipsa*, has received the Revere Graphics Materials Award for his *Graphic Panama Canal*, an embossed-relief print using a hand-cut, shaped copper plate. The work is included in the Boston Printmakers' 2007 North American Print Biennial, opening this Sunday, Feb. 18, and running through April 1 in the 808 Gallery at Boston University.

• **"The Downtown Show: The New York Scene, 1974-1984,"** which just concluded its run at the Austin Museum of Art, has been voted Best Thematic Museum in New York City by the International Association of Art Critics/USA. The exhibition, which was organized by Grey Art Gallery and Fales Library and Special Collections, New York University, will receive the honor during a ceremony on Feb. 21 at El Museo del Barrio in New York. – R.F.

When is a lion an ape? When it belongs to Disney, of course. In 1996, the Mouse House turned *The Lion King* into the 800-pound gorilla of Broadway musicals, which means that it can sleep anywhere it wants, and the *Lion* sleeps tonight – and for the next six weeks – in Bass Concert Hall. The show's phenomenal success makes it easy to forget what a huge risk Disney took in hiring Julie Taymor – known chiefly as an experimental, even noncommercial theatre artist – to steer the adaptation from animated film to stage. But it was a brilliant choice, as it is Taymor's work with puppetry, masks, and ancient theatre traditions that makes *The Lion King* worth seeing again and again. The touring production plays Feb. 15-March 25, Tuesday-Friday, 8pm; Saturday, 2 and 8pm; Sunday, 1 and 6:30pm; at Bass Concert Hall. For more information, call 477-6060. – R.F.

ARTS ON REAL: Secrets to building a successful theatre

Blake Yelavich has won thousands of dollars on TV game shows, kept his theatre company Naughty Austin going strong for a full decade, and transformed an old ice warehouse into a stylish and intimate theatre, Arts on Real, now in its fourth year of successful operation. Well, this month, add cover boy to Yelavich's list of achievements. The seemingly tireless director/designer/set-builder/administrator/bartender/you-name-it is pictured on the front of the current issue of *DramaBiz*, a trade



publication for the show-business set, emphasis on "business." Magazine Editor Joel Dorr conducts an in-depth interview with Yelavich, who explains how the cash earnings from his appearances on *Win Ben Stein's Money* and *Weakest Link* provided the seed money for his dream of having his own theatre and how his savvy at stretching a dollar and using his theatrical skills at dressing up a

space made an abandoned warehouse off Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard look like a million bucks for a fraction of that. Yelavich also shares his thoughts on what it takes to make it in the stage game (short answer: strong, unwavering commitment and perseverance through the long, lonely hours and inevitable disappointments) and how important the audience has been to Naughty Austin's survival. It should make for good reading before you go see the company's latest production, *Mambo Italiano*, opening this week at Arts on Real, 2826 Real in East Austin. The feature can be found online at www.dramabiz.com. For more information on *Mambo Italiano*, call 472-2787, or visit www.artsonreal.com. – Robert Faires

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT: New Hires at Conspirare and the Mary Moody Northern Theatre

The personnel changes at local arts organizations continue. In addition to the recently announced departures of Ann Ciccolella at Zach and Richard Buckley and Tamara Hale at Austin Lyric Opera, two notable arrivals have taken place at Conspirare and the Mary Moody Northern Theatre. The Grammy-nominated company of voices has hired its first-ever executive director, Erich Vollmer, who comes to Austin from the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, where he's served as executive director since 2004. Vollmer's 20 years in the performing-arts industry also included a three-year stint as president and CEO of the Caramoor Center for Music in Katonah, N.Y.; six years as executive director for the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival; two years with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra; and nine years with the Philharmonic Society of Orange County. He joins the company March 19. Meanwhile, over at St. Edward's University, Michelle Polgar is the new business manager for the Mary Moody Northern Theatre. This comes just a few months after Polgar was laid off as artistic director of the State Theatre in the wake of the disastrous flood in the space last summer and resulting shutdown of operations. She had been at the State since 2000, serving as assistant artistic director to Scott Kanoff prior to her appointment as his successor in 2005. Earlier, she served as executive director of Artists' Legal and Accounting Assistance of Austin and managing director of the Public Domain Theatre, which she co-founded with husband (and *Chronicle* contributor) Robi Polgar in 1993. She has also directed numerous productions for the stage. At MMNT, Polgar succeeds Annie Suite, who leaves after nine years as theatre business manager. She plans to start her own business (and do more acting again, we hope). MMNT's current production, *Macbeth*, runs through Feb. 25, Wednesday-Saturday, 7:30pm, Sunday, 2pm. For more information, call 448-8484. – R.F.

365 Days/365 Plays: Week 14

The yearlong festival of plays by Suzan-Lori Parks continues. Each week through Nov. 12, a different group will present seven short plays written during the same week four years earlier. Admission is free or by donation, as noted. For more information, visit www.zachscott.com/365.

Week 14: Kathleen Fletcher

Friday, Feb. 16, 7pm, outside Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd. Seven plays directed by Kathleen Fletcher (Yellow Tape Construction Company, Shrewd Productions, Vortex Summer Youth Theatre). Admission: free.

Warrior Voices

With a Spanish-language production of ‘The Vagina Monologues,’ Austin Latinas are making themselves heard

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

(The identities and personal details of some interviewees have been altered at their request.)

When “Ana” was raped at 13, it was an experience beyond words. Although she received preliminary counseling, her well-meaning parents withdrew her from treatment when she got a boyfriend. They thought she was fine. The event was behind her. It was time to move on. Twenty years after the assault, Ana saw a 2003 production of *The Vagina Monologues* performed at the University of Texas. It was then she realized that not only were there words to describe her experience but that the experience was not behind her. It was something she carried into the present – a wound that hadn’t healed. And others shared the experience. But even more startling were the *poderosas* she saw on stage: powerful women who broke past silence and cultivated shame to speak honestly, poignantly about their bodies and the stories they carried.

“When I saw that UT production, I thought, ‘Oh, I really do have power. I do have value. I do have a voice.’”

This weekend, Ana joins the voices of 15 other women when she participates in a local production of Eve Ensler’s *The Vagina Monologues*, one of thousands of productions across the nation and around the world that is now an annual event produced in collaboration with the V-Day organization (see “Eve Ensler and the V-Day Story,” p.42). While this is not the first time the show has played in Austin, it is the first all-Spanish-language version produced in Austin, and perhaps all of Texas, as *Los Monólogos de la Vagina*.

Now translated into 45 languages, the script being used by the Austin cast is the same one used in a Mexico City production, tailored for

localisms. An interesting task, considering the range of places the cast members are from and the linguistic distinctions they bring with them: Washington, D.C.; Venezuela; Mexico; Puerto Rico; El Salvador; as well as Austin, San Antonio, and El Paso. But translation issues are one thing. The larger cultural and social challenges to presenting *Los Monólogos de la Vagina* are another. The influence of the traditional Roman Catholic Church, with its conservative views on sexual expression, is still strong in Latin America, as are some lingering ideas about women’s subordinate role to men. Last year in the United States, the president of Notre Dame University, the Rev. John I. Jenkins,

***Los Monólogos de la Vagina* is far from “victim rights” theatre. “It’s about thriving and about claiming your right to be a happy, loving, loved woman in a peaceful society,” – Kiara Alvarez**

found himself at the center of a turbulent debate about the appropriateness of allowing a performance of *The Vagina Monologues* at a Roman Catholic university. The production was allowed, but the incident struck at the core of the church’s struggle to hold its centrality in a world that has evolved beyond the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965).

The degree to which these macro influences resonate with *Los Monólogos*’ cast members is



Bella Castano

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Mayra Sigala (l) and Daniela de los Angeles

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as varied as the women themselves. As human-service workers, professors, students, counselors, bilingual-education teachers, and mothers, sisters, and daughters, the overall interest in presenting this play is not about taming institutional dragons or challenging customs but about taking that small but enormously liberating step from silence to bearing witness. Each cast member has her own compelling reason for participating in *Los Monólogos de la Vagina*.

“I really thought it was important to present this to the immigrant community,” says Cynthia Trejo, the lead producer of *Los Monólogos de la Vagina*. She performed in an English-language production at the play! Theatre in East Austin in 2005 and 2006, directing a monologue presented in Spanish last year. The experience drove her and co-producers Veronica Hernandez and Marialy Gonzalez to attend an annual Vagina Warrior Workshop (formerly the Regional Empowerment Workshop) in New Orleans last November to get a better grasp of what was expected of producers and how V-Day works.

“We were all shocked when Eve Ensler walked into the room,” Trejo says. She was further impressed that Ensler wasn’t there merely to make an appearance but facilitated. She talked to the participants as peers and answered questions, but, most importantly, she actively listened to what all participants brought to the table.

“It was very inspirational, almost a spiritual experience,” Trejo says. “In the end, it’s not about Eve Ensler or any one ‘star’; it’s about the larger movement to end violence against women. It doesn’t have to do with me; it has to do with all of us.”

After the workshop, Trejo was determined to mount a Spanish-language production in Austin.

So Many Silences to Be Broken

“I love the play and what V-Day represents,” says Kiara Alvarez, a native of Puerto Rico who’s been living in Austin for four years. As a

continued on p.42

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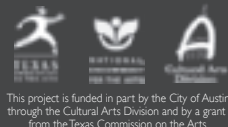
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writer and educator who works at the Center for Child Protection, her reasons for joining the *Monólogos* cast addresses personal and professional goals.

“Audre Lorde said in an essay that ‘it is not difference which immobilizes us, but silence. And there are so many silences to be broken.’ That, for me, is at the core of my work, both in human services and in writing. Perpetrators of sexual, physical, and emotional violence use silence and fear as tools to terrorize a victim. Sexually abused children are threatened with what will happen if they tell, women in situa-

tions of domestic violence are isolated from their families and friends, and many of us hold on to the belief that if we just stop thinking about or speaking about traumas we’ve experience, then they will go away.”

Anecdotal evidence suggests that undocumented immigrants are even less likely to seek help following an assault or abuse for fear that their undocumented status will override their need for help. That fear is not unfounded. In an already hostile, anti-immigrant climate, Texas state Rep. Debbie Riddle, R-Tomball, recently introduced legislation to prohibit “safe

haven” cities such as Austin and organizations that provide sanctuary services to the undocumented. If House Bill 1012 passes, critics say law-enforcement officials could find themselves inspecting immigration status when time could be better spent investigating and solving crimes – if the crime is even reported in the first place. Like other domestic-violence victims, new immigrants may be reluctant to report abuse, feeling that it is a private family matter. Regardless of immigration status, having barriers for seeking and receiving help is another form of victimization, equal to or worse than the original crime.

Speaking to the Hispanic Population

While V-Day’s core mission is to end violence against women, *Los Monólogos de la Vagina* is far from “victim rights” theatre.

“It’s about thriving and about claiming your right to be a happy, loving, loved woman in a peaceful society,” Alvarez says.

The script is full of proud realizations that come with speaking freely and shedding (or poking fun at) infantilizing or shame-inducing language about sex and the female body. Being able to do so in one’s native language is an added incentive.

“The Spanish-language aspect of the production caused me to be especially excited about being a cast member,” says Maria Rivera, a full-time lecturer in the Department of Advertising at UT-Austin. “It allows me to tap into a part of my Hispanic identity that I don’t normally get to revisit on a daily basis in Austin.”

“When Maria sent me the e-mail, I was like, ‘Cool. Okay, it can be the first time I can talk about the vagina in front of people,’” Carmen Elena Murcia jokes. She recently moved from El Salvador to work for an advertising agency in

Jennifer Guerrero

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Austin. “No, really. I’m proud to be in this, speaking to our people.”

That doesn’t mean the script doesn’t cause moments of uneasiness. For all its inviting play, its candor can be an epiphany to one ear, shocking to another.

“I feel that the Hispanic population – we still need that extra push to become comfortable with women’s sexuality,” says Andrea Troncoso, a 23-year-old student. “I can still hear the discomfort in my parents’ voice when discussing the show. Don’t get me wrong. They’re incredibly supportive. It’s just the word ‘vagina’ that gets to them.”

Some cast members haven’t told their families they are in the show and haven’t decided if they will. The degree of disclosure depends on

Eve Ensler and the V-Day Story

When Eve Ensler first conceived of *The Vagina Monologues*, she had no idea it would evolve into a worldwide movement. Her original 1997 script was written because she was “worried about vaginas” – worried about how they were neglected, taunted, misunderstood, abused, demonized, mutilated, scorned, and called names, a panoply of names ranging from indistinct genteelisms to the pointedly degrading.

Ensler wrote *The Vagina Monologues* based on hundreds of interviews she conducted, first in New York and later around the world. While only a few of the monologues address sexual abuse and exploitation, these are the ones that elicited the strongest response, making women seek Ensler after her performance to thank her for voicing their experience and bringing attention to the larger issue of violence against women. Ensler quickly realized that for all those who came forward, there were more who did not and still more whose voices were gone forever. The weight of that knowledge and knowing that she was in a unique position to effect change was overwhelming. Instead of retreating from the enormity of the situation, she broadened the mantle. In 1998 she joined forces with Feminist.com, another organization concerned with violence against women, and launched the V-Day Committee. The committee produced the first fundraising performance of *The Vagina Monologues*, featuring Jane Fonda, Rosie Perez, and Glenn Close, among others. The

event was an enormous success. In 1999, the committee launched the V-Day College Initiative to encourage performances on college campuses. Soon, performances were occurring beyond campuses, some with professional actresses, most with enthusiastic amateurs. Funds raised at these local performances are recycled to area organizations working to end violence against women. This year’s performance of *Los Monólogos de la Vagina* will support Arte Sana (Art Heals) and SafePlace, which offers shelter and support services for battered and abused women, children, and men.

In fewer than 10 years, *The Vagina Monologues* has become the organizing force behind the V-Day movement – the “V” standing for vagina, victory, Valentine’s Day, and this year, evoking the two-fingered gesture for peace. Today, in addition to providing guidance on how to mount local productions of *The Vagina Monologues*, the V-Day organization supports initiatives that work to end exploitation and violence against women and children in all corners of the world. This year’s V-Day productions – performed every February on or around Valentine’s Day – have reclaiming peace as their banner statement. Because rape and other forms of sexual exploitation intensify during wartime, this year’s imperative is especially urgent.

For more info on the history of V-Day and its worldwide initiatives, visit www.vday.org. – B.A.

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a variety of intersecting factors: generation level in the U.S., education, and age, in addition to the nature of familial relationships.

Finding the Voice

V-Day encourages a grassroots approach to producing all performances of *The Vagina Monologues*, no matter what language it's performed in. The emphasis is not about providing a vehicle for a few stars or creating a slickly produced event. The rehearsal process is more collaborative than in a conventional theatre setting where the director gives notes to actors after rehearsing a scene. In this way, the process is just as important as the product.

"I like finding the rush of who you are, finding the voice, finding the weight in the voice," Rivera says when speaking of her rehearsal experience. The last time she performed in a live theatre event was in high school. "I think that's the coolest thing. You have this thing in your gut that tells you you can do it, even when you're scared," she said. "But don't think it's not uncomfortable to have an orgasm in front of 300 people. It's challenging, but a great challenge. It feels empowering."

Rivera was speaking of the first rehearsal of the monologue describing various orgasmic expressions. The atmosphere was playful, tinged with a bit of bashfulness. Laughter and encouraging words were exchanged when fellow actors were able to push past their nervousness and go for broke. When it was Ana's turn, she started strong, then stopped. It was assumed she was nervous, perhaps inexperienced.

"It helps if you close your eyes," one cast member offered. Her own faulty start had culminated in a shrieking rendition of the "maria-chi orgasm."

"Maybe next time," another suggested. "You'll get it."

In reality, Ana was revisiting old wounds that most of her cast members didn't have. She tried two, three more times before stopping and saying, "I can't." There was no nervous tension or exasperated impatience, only warm support.

Later, when asked about that rehearsal, Ana admitted, "It was too close. I talked to Cynthia, and we agreed that I won't do that part any more."

"I don't know, it just works out somehow," Trejo said, reflecting on her past *Vagina Monologues* experience and anticipating the outcome of the production she is shepherding. People drop out, and new people step in. The most confident lose their spirit, and the least confident are suddenly strong. "Every year I've participated, I don't know how it happens, but I know to have faith that it will."

Helping Others by Speaking

"Compassion," Ensler wrote in her 2006 essay "Celebrating Vagina Warriors," "is the deepest form of memory. ... Vagina Warriors know that the process of healing from violence is long and happens in stages. They give what they need most, and by giving this, they heal and activate the wounded part inside."

For Ana, first seeing, and now participating in, *Los Monólogos de la Vagina* is that activation process. "I want to be another one of the women who helps other women realize the power they have, just like I was helped when I

first saw [*The Vagina Monologues*]. Being part of this [performance] has helped me the most."

Without expecting it, Ana received the healing balm she needed from a community of women working toward a shared goal. And though she's encountered her own challenges preparing for *Los Monólogos de la Vagina*, she's compelled to continue, certain that "our voices in this play are for the voices of the women lost and the ones still needing to be heard."

If that is not faith healing, then nothing is. ■

Los Monólogos de la Vagina will be performed Thursday and Friday, Feb. 15-16, 7:30pm, at El Buen Samaritano, 7000 Woodhue. Proceeds benefit Arte Sana (www.arte-sana.com) and SafePlace (www.austin-safeplace.org).



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THE CASTLE IN THE FOREST

by Norman Mailer

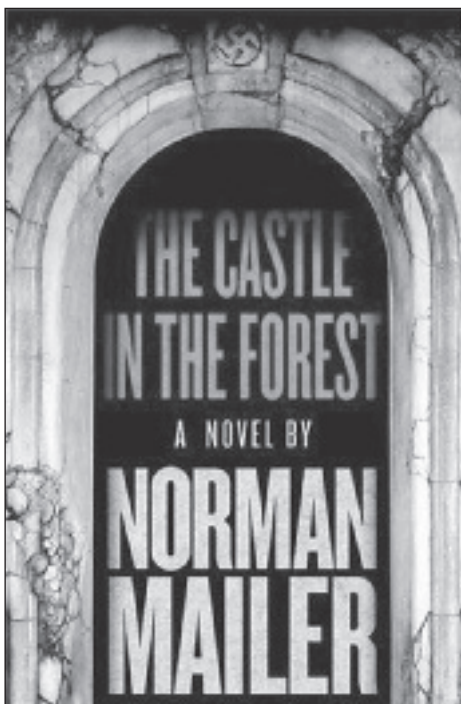
Random House, 496 pp., \$27.95

Even 60 years after his suicide in a bunker beneath the streets of Berlin, Adolf Hitler remains one of the favorite subjects of behaviorists, sociologists, and amateur moral philosophers: a black canvas onto which theorists can paint their own versions of the limits (or limitlessness, as the case may be) of human immorality. Just ask the History Channel, which must dedicate 18 hours of every broadcast day to the former Nazi dictator: The mystery of Hitler is one of those endless hallways, rich in dark corners and controversy and open to even the wildest conjecture.

Sixty years after the publication of his first novel and 10 years since his last, Norman Mailer — one of our foremost experts on dark corners and a man who never met a controversy he didn't like — takes a walk down this hallway with *The Castle in the Forest*, his fictionalized portrait of the dictator as a young man and the father, the mother, and the demons who, together, helped make him what he was. Half Freud, half *Faust*, and based loosely on real events in young Hitler's life, *The Castle in the Forest* is Mailer's imaginative contribution to the ongoing debate about the greatest of all controversies: What was behind Hitler's particular brand of hatred and demagoguery? Where does true evil come from? And who — or what — is to blame for it?

Answer: The devil.

Lucifer is understandably interested in snagging young Hitler's soul for his own, and he gives the job to one of his agents, a demon



who is also the book's narrator. We learn that this demon has been with Hitler — his "client" — since conception and has been cultivating a sinister influence on his life ever since, so he's in a privileged position to give us the man's true story "with a confidence," he writes, "no conventional biographer could begin to feel."

It's a clever conceit, to claim complete biographical authority through mystical omniscience, and Mailer makes the most of it,



conjuring a world where angels and devils battle for human souls with a mixture of guile and misdirection and granting readers access to the smallest psychic blips and minor incidents in his characters' lives. Of course, in a novel about the moral education of one of the greatest monsters in human history, there can be no minor incidents or small blips: Every circumstance, every insubstantial moment, is of the greatest importance to a demon trying to win a soul as full of potential as Hitler's, and every perceived slight, every felt injustice, every act of parental malfeasance, and every wicked

thought become links in a lifelong chain stretching outward toward perdition.

Unfortunately, Mailer is more a journalist than he is a novelist, more a student of humanity than a creator of lives, and *The Castle in the Forest*, though rich in historical and psychological detail (the book's bibliography is an epic in itself), lacks the kind of character development and depth that inspires empathy in readers — the key to any successful novel. Hitler's father, Alois, is an incestuous drunk given over to wild acts of barbarity and rage, while his son is a willful, sinful brat who dreams at night of war and murder, of being "a high agent of the gods of death." Such depraved lives require a subtle touch; to make his readers care about them rather than recoil in horror, a writer must make them truly human and their flaws, no matter how great, close to our own. Mailer doesn't seem capable of such subtlety, however, and his characters too often read like ideas rather than men: In the end, they lack the depth and internal conflict at the heart of the world's great literary creations.


Mailer's interest here is in early childhood — and all the lingering pain and disenchantment that go along with it — and his story stops long before Hitler's really starts: Before his stint in prison, before the Beer Hall Putsch, before *Mein Kampf* and the burning of the Reichstag. Before Hitler becomes Hitler. To ensure that this transformation occurs, Mailer's demon, like any lingering childhood phantasm worth its salt, latches on to all of young Adolf's deepest insecurities and fears and spins them into a tapestry of victimized bitterness and megalomania: the perfect recipe for any future dictator. — Josh Rosenblatt

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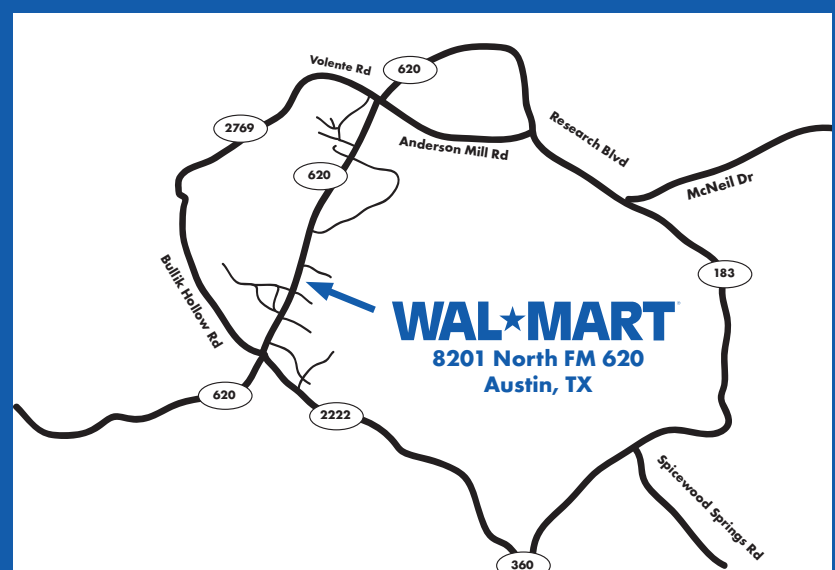


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AFTER A FASHION

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

GRANNY AWARDS Sunday's **Grammy Awards** were so lackluster that they should have been called the Granny Awards. But they raised more questions than answers, such as: Did **Wyclef** have a burning sensation in his penis? Why did he keep pinching it? Did **Shakira**'s metal breastplate make her colder than a witch's tit in a brass bra? Why did **Gnarls Barkley**'s singer dress like **Idi Amin**? Who the hell decided that the dreadful **Carrie Underwood** was the appropriate person to sing a tribute to **Bob Wills**? What do **Luke Wilson**, **Christina Ricci**, **Samuel L. Jackson**, and **Al Gore** have to do with the music business? When will **Jennifer Hudson** discover appropriate undergarments – especially some that *might* make her pendulous breasts appear to be approximately the same size? And lastly, why didn't they just call the whole thing the **Dixie Chicks** Awards? *Five* top awards – good work, ladies!

R.I.P. A.N.S. OK, we know that the Texas trash named **Anna Nicole Smith** is dead, and I'm sure we all know the details. But I'm shocked (shocked, I tell you!) to be reading that the speciously credentialed **Prince Frederick von Anhalt**, aging husband of 90-year-old reptilian sex goddess **Zsa Zsa Gabor** (ancestor and prototype of **Paris Hilton**), claims to have had a decadelong affair with Anna Nicole and to be the father of her 5-month-old baby. I'm fainting. He claims the

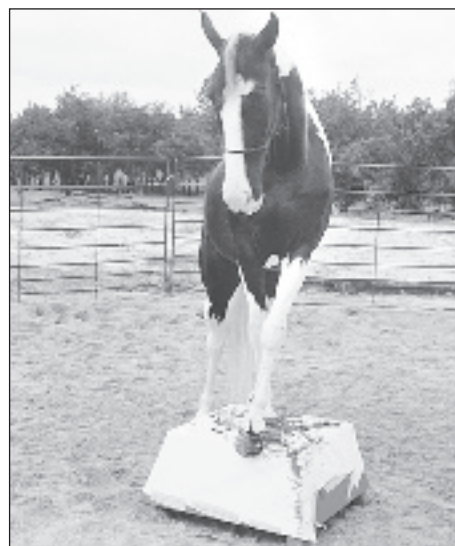
often-corpulent Anna Nicole wanted him to make her a "princess," but he'd have had to divorce the bedridden *Queen of Outer Space*, Zsa Zsa. His solution? That he and Zsa Zsa "adopt" the 39-year-old Anna Nicole. He went so far as filling out the adoption papers, but the uncompromising Zsa Zsa refused to sign them, nixing the idea that her husband's lover become her "child." How thoughtless of her. Doesn't she want to see her husband happy?

ECONOMY TIP Old telephone books make great personal address books. Simply cross out the names of people you don't know, and voilà!

YIKES I studiously avoided **Mardi Gras** while I was in Galveston for a few days (working on the wedding dress for the future daughter-in-law of the **Long Center's Cliff Redd**) – watching the coverage on television confirmed that I was correct to stay away. How did an event of such religious and social significance become an amateurish drunkfest dedicated to indecent exposure?

SCREEN NAMES My new favorite one to use is **Animé Wong**, replacing my former favorite, **Fey Ray**.

THE HAIR CHAIR Thought you might be interested to know that **Ron King** at **Bô Salon** just returned from **Olympus Fashion Week** in NYC, where he worked alongside



Equine artist Lady C, owned by Sheryl Crow (or is it the other way around?), "paints" a canvas for the Animal Trustees of Austin's Petcasso fundraiser.

celeb stylist **Ted Gibson** on runway shows and photo shoots... Speaking of salons, I had my hair done at **Sage Salon** recently (their new location in the **2nd Street District** will be opening any moment). Well, I felt like I was cheating on my usual hair mistress and keeper of the locks, **Deborah Carter** at **Pink Hair Salon & Gallery**, but it was an emergency, and I'd waited too long for Deborah to accommodate me. So after giving raves to Sage

Salon for the work they've done for so many fashion shows, **Austin Music Awards**, and on friends of mine, I went there myself and walked out with a faaabulous new platinum blond do from colorist Carissa and cutter Jenni, who uses a dry-cutting technique learned when she was assistant to recently deceased celeb stylist **John Sahag**.

AGENDA Sunday, Feb. 18, 5pm, at the **Barr Mansion** (10463 Sprinkle), the **Animal Trustees of Austin** present **Petcasso**, featuring artwork done by the pets of celebrities such as **Sheryl Crow**, **Ray Benson**, and my dear friend **Sara Hickman**. Tickets and info at www.animaltrustees.org... Saturday, March 3, 6pm, **One World Gala 2007** presents **Footloose** with **Kenny Loggins** at **One World Theatre**. Tickets and info at www.oneworldtheatre.org... Saturday, March 17, 6pm, at the **Downtown Hilton**, the **Human Rights Campaign** presents the **HRC Austin Gala Dinner**, featuring a performance by **Lorna Luft** (**Judy Garland**'s daughter and **Liza Minnelli**'s half-sister, as if you didn't know). Table and ticket info at www.hrcastin.org... Thursday, April 26, 6:30-9:30pm, at the **Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum** is the **"Best of Austin"** award-winning **Umlauf Sculpture Garden Party**. Tickets and further info at www.umlaufsculpture.org...

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).

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photo by Steve Indrands

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**53 DINING ON MODERN-DAY
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Enfield Rite-Way, 1934 (site of current Nau's Enfield Drug)

COURTESY OF THE VISCARDI FAMILY

of Pharmacy member) was on the pharmacist's diploma established my genuine family connection to the neighborhood. The elementary school, the restaurant, the grocery store, the laundry, and the soda fountain are thankfully all still there.

From the mid-Seventies through the early Eighties, the historic inner-city area was undergoing a renaissance of sorts. There was food, music, community fellowship, and family entrepreneurship. On a Sunday walk down the dusty streets of Clarksville, it was possible to hear the full-throated joyful noise of gospel music bursting forth from the Sweet Home Baptist Church or the quiet musings of singer-songwriter Townes Van

Zandt emanating from a funky trailer at 11th and Charlotte.

Pharmacist Lambert Labay had purchased the venerable Nau's Enfield Drug from founders Hylton and Eleanor Nau with a firm commitment to maintaining the store's well-established personal service, as well as the treasured soda fountain. Business partners Nancy Sewald, Jeffrey Weinberger, and Ron and Peggy Weiss opened Jeffrey's in 1975 at the corner of West Lynn and 12th with chef Emil Vogely in the kitchen, sparking a citywide fine-dining revolution. Clarksville, a neighborhood settled by freed slaves in 1871 (officially West Sixth to Waterston and West Lynn to MoPac), was recognized in the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. The Woody Hills produce co-op was started by a bunch of hippies from Oakland House, and nearer the end of the decade, pals Mark Skiles and Craig Weller would create Clarksville Natural Grocery

continued on p.50

BLUE BELL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION STARTS IN AUSTIN

Washington County dairy farmers and city business leaders founded the Brenham Creamery Company in 1907 to sell butter made from the excess cream generated by area dairies. It was a smart plan designed to provide farmers with some cash and to draw shoppers into town, which was deemed good for everybody's business. Wise as they were, the city fathers could not have foreseen that 100 years later their smart little local enterprise would make Brenham famous as home to one of the most respected premium ice-cream makers in the country. The company started making ice cream in 1911 and officially changed its name to Blue Bell Creameries in 1930, in honor of the blue bell, a Texas wildflower that flourishes during the hot months, just like people's cravings for ice cream. For the next 40 years, Blue Bell ice cream was pretty much a regional Texas treasure. Then smart sales and distribution techniques, paired with a stylish ad campaign based on near-fanatical product loyalty, prompted serious company expansion beginning in the 1970s. Today, Blue Bell is distributed in 16 states and boasts a big share of the country's premium ice-cream market.

To commemorate their centennial, Blue Bell has planned a yearlong traveling celebration that commences in Austin this week-end in the parking area across from the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum (1800 Congress). The "rolling birthday party" includes a customized 18-wheeler full of Blue Bell information, interactive media presentations, and memorabilia; a mobile country store stocked with anniversary merchandise; an inflatable bounce house in the shape of a half gallon of Homemade Vanilla; and plenty of free ice cream. Over the coming year, the 100 Years Tour will visit 66 cities in Blue Bell's 16-state distribution area. There will also be a hometown birthday party this summer at the Washington County Fair in Brenham, July 19-21. In Austin, members of the local Boys & Girls Clubs will enjoy a sneak-preview party at 5:30pm on Thursday, Feb. 15. The event is open to the public from 10am to 5pm on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Feb. 16-18.

— V.B.W.

THEN AND NOW

Of Kash-Karry, Casiraghi's, and Jeffrey's: Clarksville's culinary history

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

News about a flurry of restaurant activity along West Lynn Street inspired me to take a Sunday drive through the historic Old West Austin and Clarksville neighborhoods recently. I hadn't spent much time in that part of town since raging gentrification in the early Nineties finally priced me out. Among the McMansions, exclusive condos, and traffic islands, I was pleased to observe that the true soul of the place, as well as some of its culinary history, remains intact.

When I moved into Old West Austin as a UT grad in the mid-Seventies, certain things instantly made it feel like home. There was a charming old elementary school just down the block and a wonderful new restaurant on the corner. The grocery store and a laundry were within walking distance of my \$85-a-month garage apartment, and the soda fountain at the corner drugstore was remarkably like the one in the family drugstore of my childhood. That and the fact that my dad's signature (as a Board

'San Antonio Express-News' Wine Competition and Festival

Those looking for some out-of-town entertainment should consider the *San Antonio Express-News* Wine Competition and Festival taking place Friday, Feb. 16, and Sunday, Feb. 18, at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort in San Antonio. I attended this 25-year-old event last year and recommend it as a fun, educational, and exciting event. All proceeds benefit KLRN, public television for South Central Texas, so by enjoying great wine and food, you'll be helping a good cause. The list of gold-medal-winning wines from the 2007 Wine Competition will be announced in the Feb. 14 issue of the *Express-News*, and attendees can sample the winning wines at the festival's events.

The festival kicks off with the Wine Opener on Friday from 7 to 9:30pm. This intimate black-tie affair includes an array of American vintners, as well as outstanding international participants. It offers a chance to taste the gold-medal-winning wines from the competition,

along with excellent cuisine and live Latin jazz. If this year's event is anywhere close to last year's, it's definitely worth it for the abundance of great food and wines.

Sunday kicks things off with a lavish, multi-course Champagne Brunch from 11am to 1:30pm. This is a great opportunity to taste some of the world's most outstanding Champagnes and wines. Winery representatives will be on hand to talk to participants and answer their questions, all while enjoying a private performance by Public Radio International's Jim Cullum Jazz Band. The festival comes to a close that evening at the Alamodome with the Fine Wine & Cuisine Tasting from 6 to 8:30pm. This event is known in San Antonio as the "granddaddy of all wine tastings," with hundreds of wines available for sampling along with food from local restaurants and catering companies.

— Claudia Alarcón

For admission information and more, visit www.sawinefest.com.

EVENT MENU :: FEB. 16-22

If you're in the market for a lovely belated Valentine's celebration, take your sweet babu for a drive along the **Hill Country Wine Lovers Trail** (www.texaswinetrail.com), and stop in at **Becker Vineyards** (830/644-2681; www.beckervineyards.com) for a complimentary Merlot-and-chocolate tasting. Enjoy sumptuous truffles, bonbons, and other divine creations from Venezuelan chocolatier **Chocolates El Rey**; Saturday, Feb. 17, 10am-6pm; Sunday, Feb. 18, noon-6pm.

For many of us, a well-sharpened knife is the most valuable piece of kitchen equipment. **Faraday's Kitchen Store** (1501 RR 620 N., 266-5666; www.faradayskitchenstore.com) offers the skills of the **Knife Sharpest of Austin**, who will sharpen knives while you shop. Cash only: straight-edged knives, \$3; serrated, \$4; Saturday, Feb. 17, 10am-3pm.

Attention coffee aficionados: The **Austin History Center** (810 Guadalupe) will host an evening of dynamic photos and fascinating travel narrative presented by author **Linda Rice Lorenzetti** and photojournalist **Daniel Lorenzetti** based on their 2000 book, *The Birth of Coffee*. The authors traveled to the islands of Indonesia researching this "photographic essay of the worlds and people behind a simple cup of coffee" and have recently developed this traveling presentation for museums and libraries around the country. **Ruta Maya** will serve complimentary refreshments and coffee. The authors own all the remaining copies of their book and will be glad to sign copies after the presentation. A portion of the proceeds from the book sales will benefit the **Austin Public Library**. The program is free, but space is limited, so reservations at www.austinelibrary.org are suggested. For more information, call 974-7400; Wednesday, Feb. 21, 7pm.

— V.B.W.

at the corner of West Lynn and 10th. Mary Robinson made White Mountain Yogurt in a dumpy building across from Kash-Karry, affectionately known as the “hippie kitchen,” and she leased me space there for my fledgling wholesale dessert business. A couple of years later, Jake and Arnette Knippa would become the third generation of his family to operate grocery stores in Austin when they took over that well-loved Kash-Karry outlet at West Lynn and 13th.

While the gospel sounds from Sweet Home Baptist remain ageless, Van Zandt didn’t live in the neighborhood for long, Robinson sold the yogurt business, and the neighborhood gas stations on opposing corners at 12th and West Lynn turned into Sledd Nursery (northeast) and a series of restaurants (southwest). Skiles and Weller partnered up with John Mackey of SaferWay to found a natural-foods grocery at 10th and Lamar. That one store would be the birthplace of the corporation known as Whole Foods Market. The company maintains a swanky flagship store and national headquarters just a stone’s throw from its Clarksville birthplace. Under the Knippas’ direction, Kash-Karry evolved into Fresh Plus, one of the best neighborhood markets in the city. West Lynn was home to two fine gourmet takeout shops, Cook’s Night Out and Lilly & Co., for more than a dozen years in the Eighties and Nineties and now boasts Cipollina. Clarksville’s culinary culture had been firmly established.

□

That renaissance was not the neighborhood’s first, however. Clarksville’s culinary and ethnic history is much richer and much more diverse, with threads stretching back to the 1920s. When I first moved into the neighborhood, the prevailing legend was that of Casiraghi’s, a beloved Italian family restaurant sacrificed when the western section of the Clarksville neighborhood was condemned to build the MoPac freeway. In researching Casiraghi’s, I discovered a treasure trove of Austin culinary history I’d never really known existed. In the early decades of the 20th century, Austin had an Italian immigrant community, some of whom were descended from Italian stone masons and tile workers who came here to work on the Capitol building. The Franzettis, Perrones, Casiraghis, Viscardis, and Colanettas were related by blood, by marriage, or by friendship. They all bought property in the Clarksville area, building businesses and shaping the flavor and character of the neighborhood for generations to come.

Arturo Casiraghi apprenticed as a cook in his native Italy and served his country as an army cook in World War I. Arturo emigrated to Austin from the village of Malgesso, Lombardy, Italy, to live with sisters. The Casiraghi sisters married the Franzetti brothers, also immigrants from Malgesso. In 1924, Arturo purchased some property in Clarksville from his brother-in-law Nat Franzetti and opened a general mercantile store at 1901 W. 10th. Two years later, he married Luisa Pasquale (from Sequals in the Veneto), and they raised their family in a house built behind the store. Arturo prepared cured meats such as salami, corned beef, pancetta, and pastrami to sell from the deli case, and soon the delicatessen and catering aspects

For Wine or Wine List

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ANTIPASTO	
Assorted Antipasto Meats	
Small.....	2.50 Small..... 1.50
Pizzeria Small 1.25 Large 2.25	
Italian Salami	
Small.....	1.50 Large..... 2.50
Anchovies, Olives & Cheese.....	2.50
Olives & Cheese.....	2.50
Vegetables & Meats	
Large.....	2.25 Small..... 2.25

DINNERS

MILANO	
Antipasto	
Soup, Spaghetti or Ravioli	
Combination Salad	
Chicken Cacciatore	
Spaghetti or Zucchini	
Coffee or Tea	
	1.00

FLORENCE	
Combination Salad	
Steak of Beef Stewed in Wine	
with Ricotta alla Milanese	
Ice Cream	
Tea or Coffee	
	1.00

BOLOGNA	
Antipasto	
Choice of Pasta Fagioli Soup	
Ravioli or Spaghetti	
Salad	
Roast Beef - Italian Style with	
Asparagus alla Parmigiana	
Spaghetti or Zucchini	
	2.25

CHILD PLATE	
Children under 12 years	
Beef Steak, Rice or Spaghetti.....	1.00
Chicken with Rice or Spaghetti.....	.80
Spaghetti, 1 Meat Ball.....	.80
Spaghetti & Sauce or Cacciatore Sauce.....	.55
Rice with Chicken Broth, Capotata.....	.30
Rice or Zucchini 300.....	.12
1 Up, Cola-Cola or Dr. Pepper.....	.10
Ice Cream.....	.25

ROME	
Combination Salad	
Spaghetti and Meat Balls	
Ice Cream	
	2.25

NAPLES	
Combination Salad	
Spaghetti and Meat Balls	
	2.00

IMPORTED BEER	
Lowenbrau.....	.20
Hofmann's.....	.20
Tuborg.....	.20
Royal Dutch.....	.20
Anheuser.....	.20
Texas Beer.....	.20
Out of State Beer.....	.20
Michel's.....	.40

SIDE ORDER	
Meat Balls, each.....	.20
Regular Spaghetti Sauce.....	.65
Meat Sauce.....	.65
Meat & Mushroom Sauce.....	1.15
Bolognese Sauce.....	1.00
Chicken Extra left, each.....	.80
Chicken Extra right, each.....	1.00
Chicken Extra breast, each.....	1.00
Chicken Extra wing, each.....	.80
Anchovies, each.....	.10

VEGETABLES	
Fried Green Beans, Italian Style	1.30
Sweet Pepper, Fried Italian Style	1.30
Asparagus alla Parmigiana.....	1.50
Spinach, Italian Style.....	1.30

BUTTER & GARLIC BREAD	
1 Loaf.....	.25
One-half Loaf.....	.20
1 Order.....	.25

SALADS	
Chef's Special.....	1.35
Tomato, Italian Style.....	.40
Combination.....	.50
Steak, Italian Style.....	.50
Raspberries Dressing.....	.50
Italian Salad with Anchovies.....	.75

SANDWICHES	
Casiraghi's Russian Corned Beef.....	1.00
Pastrami.....	1.00
Our Special Ham.....	1.00
Italian Salami.....	1.00
Combination.....	1.00
Pepperoni Cheese.....	1.00
Blue Cheese.....	1.00
Assorted Cold Cuts.....	1.25

ENTREES	
Most Dishes a la Carte with Salad	
Stuffed of Beef Stewed in Wine with Spaghetti or Ricotta.....	3.00
Beef Roast with Potatoes & Green Beans.....	3.65
Beef Brisket alla Milanese with Potatoes & Asparagus.....	3.00
Chicken Cacciatore & Ricotta.....	3.00
Chicken Cacciatore & Spaghetti.....	3.00
Chicken Cacciatore.....	2.50
Chicken Cacciatore with Mushrooms, Ricotta or Spaghetti.....	3.00

DESSERTS	
Ice Cream.....	.25
Sausage.....	.25
Frozen Zucchini.....	.25
Casiraghi's Special	
Strawberry or Peach	
Marinated in Wine.....	1.20

BEVERAGES	
Coffee.....	.12
Tea Coffee.....	.15
Hot Tea.....	.18
Tea Tins.....	.18
Milk or Chocolate Milk.....	.15
1 Up, Cola-Cola or Dr. Pepper.....	.10
Italian Espresso Coffee.....	.20

SERVICE FOR SET UP	
Glass Ice.....	.15
Beef Ice.....	1.00
Club Soda.....	.20
Ginger Ale.....	.20
1 Up, Cola-Cola or Dr. Pepper.....	.15

PIZZA	
Plain Margherita.....	1.25
Sausage.....	2.25
Pepper & Onion.....	2.00
Pepperoni.....	2.00
Anchovies.....	2.25
Mushroom.....	2.25
Green Olives, Ripe or Stuffed.....	2.25
Shrimp.....	2.25
Meat Sauce & Cheese.....	2.50
Casiraghi's Special.....	2.00

PASTA	
Ravioli alla Toscana.....	2.50 1.25
Spaghetti and Meat Balls.....	1.50 1.00
Spaghetti and Sauce.....	1.00 1.25
Spaghetti Spaghetti Sauce.....	1.25 1.00
Spaghetti Meat & Mushroom Sauce.....	2.20 1.25
Spaghetti Bolognese Sauce (All Meat).....	2.25 1.00
Spaghetti & Meat Sauce.....	2.25 1.00
Lasagna alla Milanese.....	2.25 1.00
Ricotta alla Milanese.....	1.60 1.00
Spaghetti with Butter.....	1.50 1.10
Spaghetti with Cacciatore Sauce.....	1.80 .90
Spaghetti with Chicken Cacciatore & Cacciatore Sauce.....	2.00
Ricotta with Chicken Cacciatore & Cacciatore Sauce.....	2.00
Spaghetti & Ravioli Combination, Meat Sauce.....	2.65
Spaghetti & Ravioli Meat and Mushroom Sauce.....	2.65

PASTA SPECIAL ORDERS	
Spaghetti with Mushroom Sauce..... Special.....	2.00
Spaghetti with Ricotta & Mushroom.....	2.75
Spaghetti alla carbonara with Anchovies.....	2.75
Spaghetti alla carbonara.....	2.75

SPECIALTIES OF THE HOUSE	
Cassatella di pollo alla Milanese, Ricotta, Asparagus Parmigiana and Salad.....	4.50
Veal Cacciatore with Ricotta or Spaghetti & Salad.....	4.00
Veal Scallopini al Marsala with Spaghetti & Salad.....	3.75
Tapioca di Almonds, Specialty of Roma.....	2.75
Shrimp Cacciatore, with Spaghetti.....	3.00
With Ricotta.....	2.50
Meatballs alla Milanese.....	2.50
Cassatella alla Milanese.....	2.25
Cassatella with Bolognese Sauce.....	2.00
Pasta di Pomodoro Napoli Style.....	2.25
Liquoridi with Shrimp Cacciatore.....	2.00
Pasta Anchoa alla Milanese.....	2.50
Spaghetti with Cream Sauce.....	2.75

PASTA SPECIAL ORDERS	
Spaghetti with Mushroom Sauce..... Special.....	2.00
Spaghetti with Ricotta & Mushroom.....	2.75
Spaghetti alla carbonara with Anchovies.....	2.75
Spaghetti alla carbonara.....	2.75

SPECIALTIES OF THE HOUSE	
Cassatella di pollo alla Milanese, Ricotta, Asparagus Parmigiana and Salad.....	4.50
Veal Cacciatore with Ricotta or Spaghetti & Salad.....	4.00
Veal Scallopini al Marsala with Spaghetti & Salad.....	3.75
Tapioca di Almonds, Specialty of Roma.....	2.75
Shrimp Cacciatore, with Spaghetti.....	3.00
With Ricotta.....	2.50
Meatballs alla Milanese.....	2.50
Cassatella alla Milanese.....	2.25
Cassatella with Bolognese Sauce.....	2.00
Pasta di Pomodoro Napoli Style.....	2.25
Liquoridi with Shrimp Cacciatore.....	2.00
Pasta Anchoa alla Milanese.....	2.50
Spaghetti with Cream Sauce.....	2.75

PASTA SPECIAL ORDERS	
Spaghetti with Mushroom Sauce..... Special.....	2.00
Spaghetti with Ricotta & Mushroom.....	2.75
Spaghetti alla carbonara with Anchovies.....	2.75
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Veal Scal	

Casiraghi’s Restaurant menu



Andrew Viscardi in front of his building; the family lived upstairs

of the store developed a strong following. For years, he dreamed of operating a restaurant but wouldn’t consider it until he could get a permit to sell wine along with his authentic Italian cuisine. Sometime after World War II, Arturo and countryman James Macry (from Calabria) developed a line of pasta sauces, salad dressings, and frozen pasta dishes under the Il Paesano label, but the company might have been a little ahead of its time and only lasted a couple of years.

In 1958, Arturo Casiraghi finally realized the dream of opening his own restaurant. He secured a license to sell beer and wine and turned the humble storefront on an unpaved street near the railroad tracks into a beloved neighborhood restaurant. The eatery had only 10 to 14 tables, and Dan Macry (son of James) recalls that on busy nights, overflow diners, friends, and family members were sometimes escorted through and seated in the adjoining residence kitchen. The restaurant was small, but the menu featured a full complement of authentic Italian dishes: soups, antipasti, combination dinners named for major Italian cities, pastas, pizzas, entrées, Arturo’s signature cured meats, and desserts. There was imported beer and a wine list chosen by the proprietor himself. The restaurant thrived, attracting diners from all over the city, as well as tourists.

Like so many other revered Austin landmarks, Casiraghi’s was lost to progress. The restaurant near the railroad tracks disappeared in 1969 with the building of MoPac. In an *Austin American-Statesman* article from that year, Arturo bemoaned the loss of the business he’d nurtured for 45 years and discussed the possibility

of finding a new location. Luisa, on the other hand, was “tickled to death” to be free of the restaurant and looked forward to a lengthy vacation in Italy and retirement. The restaurant never reopened, but Arturo’s culinary spirit lives on in the community. Distant relative Dan Macry is known among his friends for his delicious cured meats, especially his salami, and he invests the necessary month of preparation time in making Arturo’s famous corned beef at least once a year. Dan’s son, Benny Macry, is a chef instructor at the Texas Culinary Academy.

□

A few years after the Casiraghis began their business in Clarksville, another young Italian couple established their home near 12th and West Lynn. New Yorker Andrew Viscardi married Austinite Josephine Perrone, whose parents operated a grocery store at the corner of East Sixth and Chicon. The newlyweds settled in a little frame house on West 12th and started a family. Andrew Viscardi’s children described him as a resourceful man who dabbled in various careers. In the early 1930s, he purchased property at the corner of West 12th and West Lynn and built a building with shops on the street and a home for his growing family upstairs.

At about the same time, Josephine’s father, Pasquale Perrone (Godrano, Sicily), built a new cottage on the corner of Waterston and West Lynn for his wife, Rosa Franzetti Perrone. (Family legend has it that Rosa refused to move from the established Perrone home on East Sixth, and so Pasquale’s cottage was always a rent house. It became Lilly & Co. in 1984 and was christened “the Josephine House” in honor of Mrs. Viscardi when the Jeffrey’s folks turned it into a special event venue around the turn of this century.) Over the years, the Viscardi building at 1204 West Lynn housed grocery stores, liquor stores, florist shops, beauty parlors, and offices for Andrew’s sundry business ventures. In 1975, some young entrepreneurs rented the largest section for a new restaurant named Jeffrey’s. There was a small liquor store tucked in the middle and the un-air-conditioned Clarksville Cream Shop serving up refreshing scoops of ice cream on the corner. Over the next 30 years, Jeffrey’s would expand to fill the entire building.

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Long after Andrew's death, Josephine Viscardi remained a force in the Clarksville neighborhood, overseeing her many rental properties and her large extended family. Before her death, she sold the properties that house Jeffrey's and the Josephine House to the owners of Jeffrey's, thereby protecting them from potential family disputes or developers. Jeffrey's has maintained its reputation for consistency during the past 30 years under the aegis of only four major chefs: Emil Vogely (now chef at the Tarry House), Raymond Tatum (now chef at the Backstage Steakhouse), David Garrido (now corporate executive chef with Comida Deluxe Inc.), and Alma Alcocer-Thomas, plus a well-seasoned waitstaff, many with years of service in double digits.



Clarksville native Zelma Maxwell on the porch of her neighborhood home directly behind Jeffrey's

While the staff at Jeffrey's was busy serving presidents, visiting celebrities, and Austinites celebrating special occasions, they also made friends in the neighborhood. A bet about the completion date of one of their many expansion projects was the beginning of a monthly potluck lunch tradition at the restaurant.

Because she lost the original bet, Clarksville native Zelma Maxwell would fry chicken in cast iron skillets for the Jeffrey's crew, and they would contribute all the side dishes and desserts for the monthly feasts. Miss Zelma, who lived in the Viscardi's old frame house directly behind the restaurant on West 12th, kept a watchful eye on the entire neighborhood. She regularly admonished the Jeffrey's cooks to carefully wrap all the smelly fish carcasses before depositing them in the Dumpster that sat near her home. Zelma was such a fixture around Jeffrey's that she appears in many early staff photos, but her participation in the potluck parties is only one connective thread in the overall culinary history of the neighborhood. She also worked for the Casiraghis for years.

Though not related to the Viscardis or the Casiraghis by anything but long friendship, Anthony (Sicily) and Alice Pontallo Colanetta (the daughter of a tile cutter from Cavassanuova) were another Italian immigrant couple who helped shape the neighborhood. Anthony relocated his fam-



Jeffrey's staff photo, early 1980s

ily from Houston to Austin in 1939 to start a linen service. In 1950, he bought property on the southeast corner of West Lynn and 12th, building Anthony's Laundry & Cleaners for himself and a drugstore complete with soda fountain, which he leased to his friend Hylton Nau. Anthony's passed from father to son (Victor, now retired) and was eventually sold to Charlotte Bennight, who operates the business today. UT pharmacy grad Lambert Labay went to work at Nau's fresh out of college and ended up buying the store. Both businesses

remain neighborhood mainstays, with Laura Labay now running the venerable drugstore with her father, and third-generation Mike Colanetta managing his family's real estate holdings along West Lynn. Here's hoping the next generation sees to it that the soul of the neighborhood lives on. ■

Many thanks to Frances Perrone Mezetti, Dan Macry, Sylvia Viscardi Milosh, Kathy Henley, Charlene Viscardi, Laura Labay, Jake Knippa, Victor Colanetta, and Ron and Peggy Weiss for their help in the research for this story and their generosity with treasured family photos.

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Friday-Saturday, 5:30-
10:30pm; Sunday, 6-9:30pm
Happy-hour menu in bar,
Sunday-Friday, 5-7pm

There's no question that Jeffrey's is the flagship restaurant of the West Lynn neighborhood (in some people's opinion, of the city). Since 1975, when fine-dining was thin on the ground in Austin, it's been the restaurant's goal to set the standard for excellence, and much ink has been spent over the years waxing eloquent about the food, the ambience, and the service. From early on, Jeffrey's has been the destination dining spot for many loyal customers and visiting celebrities; in many ways, the place exudes the feel of an exclusive private club. Reservations for dinner are a must. Valet parking is virtually required unless you live within walking distance – there's no parking lot – and it isn't the place to go if you're concerned about expense.

This exclusive atmosphere extends to the warren of small dining rooms that are quiet, dark, candlelit, hung with softly spotlighted paintings, and semisecluded by floor-to-ceiling black velvet curtains. The formally clad waitstaff is deft, professional, and appropriately knowledgeable about the menu and the wines; some of them have been serving for years and have dedicated customer followings. The spacious, curved, dark-wooded bar is elegant, dimly lit, and graced by a large Malou Flato tile mural; the bar offers some alternate dining options, but more about that later.

The exit in 2005 of longtime Executive Chef David Garrido and the well-deserved ascension of longtime chef de cuisine Alma Alcocer has resulted in a departure from Garrido's signature haute-Southwestern dishes to a less focused, more eclectic menu that reflects both European and Asian influences.

An excellent way to sample both the kitchen's talents and the breadth of the wine list is the Chef's Tasting Menu with wine pairings (\$108; \$72 sans wine). The courses change regularly with seasons and availability; the dishes on my winter menu included Petrossian caviar, foie gras, black truffles, ahi tuna, lamb, pears, and pecans. Each of the five courses was accompanied by a wine from a different area: France, Germany, California, Italy, and Australia. Except for the lamb T-bone, the portions of all the dishes were truly tasting-sized, and the course progression was leisurely; therefore, while the offerings were rich, complex, and geographically all over the place, the overall experience was not gastronomically exhausting, but satisfying and interesting. The standout course of that evening was a medallion of foie gras complemented by sweet-potato custard



JOHN ANDERSON

and an earthy truffle-and-chocolate sauce. It sounds strange, I know, but it was terrific and was beautifully paired with a glass of Dönnhoff Oberhäuser Leistenberg Riesling Kabinett.

One of Alcocer's menu innovations is to offer some less complicated, more bistro-style dishes. A winner is her version of beefsteak and fries: Kobe Hanger Steak and Pommes Frites (\$13.50 on the happy hour bar menu). The sliced hanger steak (a favorite cut in France but not too popular here) was served with a smoky paprika salsa; it was beautifully tender and wonderful, and the

irresistible, darkly crisp potatoes with house-made ketchup informed us what "French" fried potatoes ought to be.

My favorite appetizer remains the Jeffrey's classic fried oysters served on thin, crisp yucca chips with a mild habanero honey aioli (\$13). Less successful were the Duck Spring Rolls With Cabbage and Chilean Papaya Slaw With Dipping Sauce (\$13). The wrappers are crisply brown, and the slaw is excellent, but the ground duck inside the rolls was dry and lacking in flavor. I found the Risotto Croquettes (\$12) to be filling but essentially boring; I just couldn't taste much sausage or manchego, and the dots of paprika aioli weren't enough to spark it up. The Salade Niçoise (\$8.50) was also a bit disappointing, and while the salad greens were beautifully dressed, there was no dressing and no discernible salt on the surrounding haricots verts, potato wedges, grape tomatoes, and quail eggs. However, the greens were topped by two interesting, thin-sliced rolls of slow-smoked ahi.

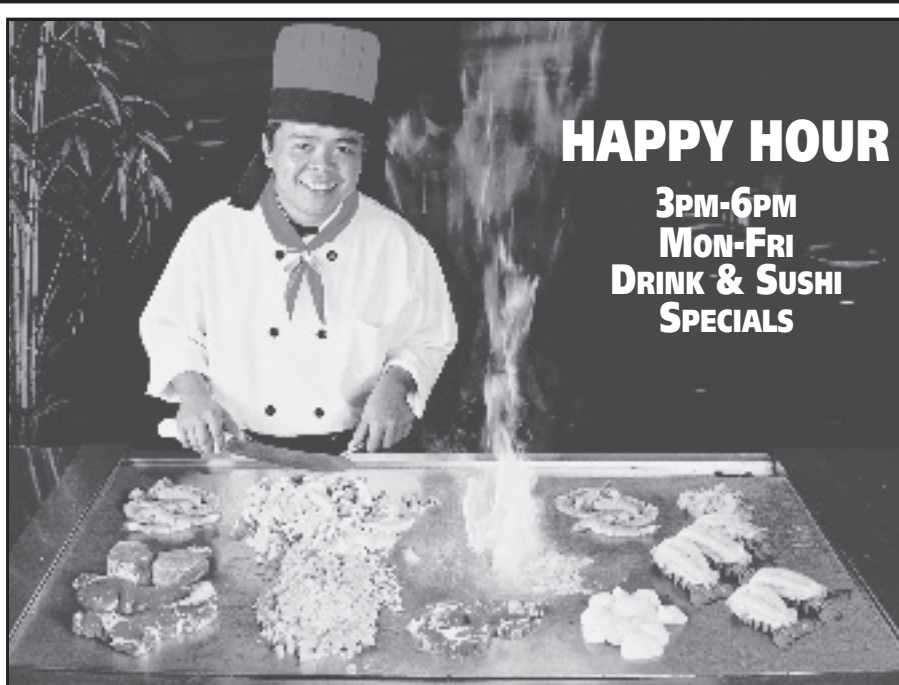
Neighborhood regulars know that a more economic and less formal way to enjoy Jeffrey's ambience and cooking is via the happy hour in the bar from 5 to 7pm on Sundays and weekdays. In reverse of most happy hours, the drinks are full price, but the bar-menu items (a short list of apps and entrées from the regular menu) are half the regular price. No reservations needed, and it's an elegant spot to meet for drinks and shared samples. The bar offers an extensive list of wines by the glass (most \$10-15); I've found that the Bourgeois Sancerre (\$11) and the Künstler Riesling (\$10) pair very nicely with many of the food offerings. I have to say that on my last visit, the service and attention in the bar fell short of the acclaimed dining-room standards, but maybe it was an off-night.

All in all, Jeffrey's remains the grande dame of Austin's fine-dining restaurants, and it's pleasant to experience the quiet, leisurely, service-oriented, and somewhat formal ambience that is so lacking in many of the city's newer, trendier competitors for the big dining dollars.

continued on p.54

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Daily, 11am-10pm

Every neighborhood ought to have a good place for pizza, and Cipollina more than fits the bill with its wood-fired oven; thin, crispy, flavorful pizza crusts; and tasty high-end toppings from Gorgonzola to artichokes to balsamic onions (\$7-15, 10- and 14-inch). However, as good as these boutique pies are, I have to agree with the menu that promises “Not just pizza anymore!”

Cipollina, Jeffrey's little sister across the street, is an upscale counter-service and takeout bistro that makes everything from scratch in its small open kitchen: breads, sauces, sausages, desserts, varieties of vegetables and entrées. It manifests a heavy Italian influence in its plates of spaghetti and meatballs, frittatas, panini on house-made focaccia (\$6.75-7.25) – the panini of braised lamb, provolone, and balsamic onion (\$7.25) is especially wonderful. There are always a couple of soups, some salads, and a few vegetable dishes available, such as green beans and marinated artichokes, and an array of rich desserts like panna cotta, dense chocolate torte, or tres leches cake, along with muffins, cookies, and a selection of house-made breads (including demibaguettes, ciabatta, and wheat-loaf) baked daily. A bijou choice of wines, mostly Italian, are available by the glass or bottle to take out or drink in with your meal. The ambience is quite casual, although romantically lit at night; huge framed mirrors and vintage Italian food and posters complete the scene. The high ceilings and concrete floor cause the place to be either a bit noisy or acoustically interesting, depending on your point of view.

For a number of years, Cipollina has hosted live music two evenings a week – a popular tango night with Glover Gill on Thursdays and jazz on Fridays. I just learned that the musical performances will cease in February, and a list of additional entrées is to be added to the menu.

NAU’S ENFIELD DRUG
1115 West Lynn, 476-3663
Monday-Friday, 7:30am-4:15pm;
Saturday, 8am-2:30pm; breakfast till 11am

Nau's Enfield Drug on West Lynn is Austin's last remaining drugstore with a bona fide soda fountain. And not just a soda fountain, but a great soda fountain. In addition to the pleasures of an independent neighborhood pharmacy for prescriptions and bandages and greeting cards, fortunate area residents have a comfortable spot (at the curvy counter, ancient wooden booths, or metal ice-cream tables) to sit down for a quick bite, linger over a cherry Coke, or chat with the steady stream of neighbors passing through. On my last visit in the middle of a rainy afternoon, my counter companions were a couple of unaccompanied 10-year-olds slurping down milkshakes and reading comic books



Above: Lambert and Kathleen Labay seated at the Nau’s soda fountain counter in the summer of 1971, just after they purchased the store from Hylton Nau and about six months before the birth of daughter Laura (below right), who now runs the store with her father.



and a solitary white-haired gentleman enjoying a cheeseburger and coffee with his *Wall Street Journal*. It's that kind of neighborhood place. (Did I mention that Nau's has an impressive magazine rack and newsstand?)

My total lunch favorite is a perfect grilled cheese sandwich with sliced dill pickles (\$2.75) and a fresh-squeezed limeade (\$1.95 or \$2.50). You can choose a fried-egg or a pimento-cheese sandwich for the same low price. Many people are partial to the various club sandwiches (\$4-5) and the levels of burgers – double cheeseburgers and bacon cheeseburgers (\$4-6) – served on a classic, soft grilled bun with mayo, shredded lettuce, and tomato. Nau's breakfasts are also classic: eggs any

way, omelets, huevos rancheros (\$3.95), and breakfast tacos (\$1.50-2.25). The cheerful uniformed counter ladies who both cook and serve are efficient, unruffled, and just about permanent fixtures; they could do it blindfolded.

OK, the soda part of the soda fountain: They've got your milkshakes, malts, Coke floats, and ice creams. The big splurge is the banana split at \$5.75. Is there any wonder that several generations of Austinites visit Nau's knowing that it is just like it always was? And what better comfort while waiting for the pharmacist to fill your prescription?

COSMIC CAFE
1110 West Lynn, 482-0950, www.cosmiccafeAustin.com
Monday-Thursday, 11am-10pm;
Friday-Saturday, 11am-10:30pm; Sunday, noon-9:30pm

It seems to me that, more often than not, there's a goofiness factor inherent in vegetarian restaurants. Sometimes it's the decor; sometimes it's the food; sometimes it's the waitstaff. At the Cosmic Cafe, it's the names of the dishes on the menu. Someone had a good time riffing on “cosmic” — the Socrates Plato, Herban Renewal, a Fold in Thyme, Raisin Consciousness, Souper Nova, Sidereal Allah Carte ... you get the idea. Goofing aside, the food bearing these silly names is so tasty that this is an ideal spot for vegetarians to bring nonvegetarian dining companions. There's a serious Indian influence on many (but not all) of the dishes, and the kitchen has a dab hand with spices and herbs; everything is so deeply flavorful that carnivores won't even notice what they're not eating.

From the Primordial Energy (appetizer) list, I'm in love with the enormous, crisp samosas (\$4.50) stuffed with spicy potatoes and peas and served with a tamarind/mint chutney. These make a meal. The hummus plate (\$5.40) is a humongous portion – plenty for two – of creamy, garlicky chickpea puree served with a small mountain of naan triangles. While delicious, it seems a bit naked; the plate would be improved by some colorful crunchy vegetables, like tomatoes, cukes, or carrots. Dahl (yellow lentil soup) is spicily yummy and accompanied by naan (\$2.97 and \$4.95).

From the Big Bang Entrées, the biggest for your buck is Buddha's Delight (\$8.91), a sampler plate that contains a large portion of mixed yellow-curry vegetables, a cup of dahl, a samosa, a crispy lentil pappadam, and a pile of basmati rice. The usual vegetarian suspects of lentils, cheese, mushrooms, black beans, avocado, and stir-fried vegetables turn up in various menu combinations, but everything I've tried has been satisfying and flavorful. There's a variety of fruit smoothies and shakes (\$3.96) on offer, along with fresh juices (\$2.97), ginger beer, and “tease.” You can BYO beer or wine.

I must mention the decor. The building was originally a gas station; when it was first reworked into a restaurant space in the early Nineties, it won awards for its innovative, elegant design. When

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Cosmic Cafe took over, some unfortunate aesthetic alterations were made: The building's beautiful bones are still there, but they're obscured by superfluous and distracting decoration. On the inside, all I can say is that you look up through the rafters into a blue sky filled with fluffy white clouds and Indonesian flying goddesses.

GALAXY CAFE

1000 West Lynn, 478-3434,
www.galaxycafeatx.com

Daily, 7am-10pm

Some might argue that West Lynn needed the old laundromat more than it needed the retro-hip, counter-service restaurant that now occupies the rather cavernous space once filled with washers and dryers. However, it's clear that a lot of people don't agree, because the Galaxy Cafe is bustling most of the time.

Perhaps the most family-friendly of the West Lynn eating establishments, multigenerational groups seem to be a ubiquitous presence: The rather stark, informal atmosphere, noise level, bright colors, and tongue-in-cheek Jetsons' decor complement the nonthreatening menu of burgers, sandwiches, wraps, salads, and a panoply of comfort-food sides ranging from mac & cheese to toast. Sweetening the deal for parents, the children's menu of \$4.25 items like fish sticks, chicken tenders, and cheese quesadillas includes a free beverage. There's something to be said for a noisy neighborhood place that isn't a chain where Mom or Dad can enjoy a glass of wine with dinner while the kids chow down on burger-ettes and milk in a carton with a straw.

After 5pm, six dinner entrées become available. I'm sorry to report that the two I tried were forgettable, at best. The Chipotle-Apricot Glazed Pork Chops (\$9.95) were thin planks of tasteless, leathery meat slathered in a generically sweet sauce, and the mixed steamed vegetables had no salt (or other discernible flavor) whatsoever. Grilled Skirt Steak With Chimichurri Sauce (\$9.95) fared slightly better, but the meat was still tough and uninteresting.

Better to stick with the all-day menu of specialty burgers, sandwiches, and wraps, which range from \$6.25 to \$7.50. The Galaxy Fish Wrap, filled with crisply breaded tilapia, coleslaw in cilantro-lime sauce, and grated cheddar, makes for a hearty meal that comes with a choice of sides. The Mexican Lime Soup (\$2.25 or \$4.75) is a tasty, citrus-spiked chicken broth with chunks of chicken and avocado. Probably the best side dish is the crisp, salty sweet potato fries (\$2.95); the aforementioned mac & cheese (\$4.25) is just bland.

Breakfast, served till 11:30am on weekdays and until 4pm on weekends, is another popular family-fare bet. Many variations of egg dishes, including wraps, scrambles, and quiches, range from \$3.50 for a slice of spinach-feta quiche to \$6.95 for a Big Breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, potatoes, and toast. Kid breakfasts, including eggs, oatmeal, and French-toast sticks, are all \$3.75 or less.

CAFFÉ MEDICI

1101 West Lynn, 524-5049,

www.caffemedici.com

Monday-Friday, 6am-10pm;

Saturday-Sunday, 6:30am-10:30pm

Caffé Medici was a tantalizingly long time coming – the sign promising coffee in a former dress-shop window was posted for months before the doors finally opened in late summer – but it was well worth the wait. The West Lynn neighborhood now hosts the site of the best new coffee venue in town. And believe me, it's all about coffee and nothing but. No liquid desserts of peppermint, caramel, or pumpkin; no fruity freezes; none of the silly overpriced junk that upscale coffee chains whose names I won't mention pass off as "coffee drinks" in shopping malls, airports, and too many neighborhood venues.

At Caffé Medici, it's unadulterated espresso, latte, and cappuccino, pure in expression and execution, unambiguously served small, medium, and large. Oh sure, you can choose from a select few biscotti, muffins, and pastries to accompany your java, but I can't imagine anyone coming here for any reason other than to savor the most flavorful, carefully prepared coffee around.

And what makes the coffee so special? To begin with, it's the beans themselves from Cuvée Coffee, roasted in Spring, Texas. While there is a selection of whole beans for sale, the coffee used at the bar is a luscious, full-bodied, seven-bean blend called Meritage. Second, the baristas really know their chops on the gleaming, curvaceous, dark-red La Marzocco machine; it's obvious they love coffee and care about the quality of each cup, serving the finished products in traditional white ceramic cups and saucers.

The ambience reflects the signature drink: simple, classy, not tarted up. The old bungalow's ceilings were removed to open up spacious headroom under the dark-stained wooden roof. The clean lines of polished wooden furniture and accoutrements are complemented by the appropriate coffee colors of black, cream, and brown. It's a calm and pleasant place.



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DOWNTOWN

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: CIBO Chef Will Packwood's long-anticipated return to the restaurant scene lives up to expectations, delivering elegant, traditional Italian dishes with vibrant flavors, excellent service, and a comprehensive wine list. **918 Congress, 478-3663 \$\$**

STEAKHOUSE: HOFFBRAU A vestige of old Austin since 1934 and an icon for generations, they serve up steak, potatoes, and beer in a former feed store. **613 W. Sixth, 472-0822 \$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: KATZ'S DELI & BAR New York, New York! Austin's own posh-nosh, a sit-down deli for the late-night crowd. **618 W. Sixth, 472-2037 \$\$**

JAPANESE: KYOTO This elder statesman of Japanese restaurants offers scrumptious sushi and other Asian fare. Non-sushi items cover the basics in Japanese cuisine, but don't expect surprises. **315 Congress, 482-9010 \$\$\$\$**

TEX-MEX: LAS MANITAS AVENUE CAFE If people-watching and amiable service don't explain the weekend wait, one taste of their *Migas Especiales con Hongos* surely will. Enjoy the dishwasher's song as you walk through the kitchen to get to the patio. **211 Congress, 472-9357 \$\$**

MEDITERRANEAN: MÁLAGA Austin's only full-time tapas bar offers a good core selection of the real thing, along with an excellent list of fairly priced wines and sherries. **208 W. Fourth, 236-8020 \$\$**

DELIVERY, PIZZA: ROPPOLO'S PIZZERIA Roppolo's offers a variety of pies at their Downtown location. Whether you're a vegetarian or a carnivore, they know how to pile on the toppings. **316 E. Sixth, 476-1490 \$**

CAJUN/CREOLE: SHOAL CREEK SALOON A Cajun oasis next to Shoal Creek, with great South Louisiana chow, ice-cold beer, and a warm and fuzzy ambience. It's the friendliest sports bar in town. **909 N. Lamar, 474-0805 \$\$**

FINE DINING: SHORELINE GRILL Panfusion food of the first order in the upper-moderate range, with items like semolina-crusted oysters with mango salsa and grilled tuna with *sake-ginger* butter. Stampede-popular at lunch. **98 San Jacinto, 477-3300 \$\$\$**

FINE DINING, STEAKHOUSE: SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE The perfect meal here is the 24-ounce. Cowboy Ribeye, along with their justifiably famous Wedge of Iceberg, slathered with a decadent bleu-cheese dressing. **300 Colorado #200, 495-6504 \$\$\$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: WINK If you enjoy an exemplary meal crafted from fresh ingredients in a loud, friendly atmosphere, this is your kind of place. Try the Petit Lemon Pot. **1014 N. Lamar Ste. E, 482-8868 \$\$\$\$**

EAST

TEX-MEX: ARTURO'S TAQUERIA The sister restaurant to the one on Cameron Road with seafood specials on weekends; the soul of the sea is evident in their atmosphere and menu. **3306 Oak Springs, 926-8474 \$\$**

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: AZUL Look for gourmet sandwiches for breakfast, lunch, and dinner that are consistently among the best in town. Also, find simple, creative bar snacks. Great coffee drinks keep regulars coming back. **1808 E. Cesar Chavez, 457-9074 \$**

TEX-MEX: BEJUICO'S RESTAURANT *Cabrito*, enchiladas, tamales, and chile rellenos. Not open 24 hours, like the sign outside says, but you can get three squares a day there. **2711-A E. Cesar Chavez, 476-7878 \$**

BARBECUE: BEN'S LONGBRANCH BBQ Smokin' good barbecue with deep historical roots. Solid sides, killer banana pudding and cobbler, a great beer selection, and fork-tender meats keep the hungry coming back. **900 E. 11th, 477-2516 \$**

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: CAFE MUNDI This Eastside boho combo coffeehouse/art space/gift shop serves up sandwiches, salads, and muffins, plus waffles on weekends! **1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634 \$**

SEAFOOD: CAPTAIN'S SEAFOOD & OYSTER BAR A full range of both fried and broiled seafood. Especially popular are the oyster or shrimp diablo appetizers and Captain Dan's Crawfish Pirogue. **5700 N. I-35, 452-1417 \$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: CISCO'S BAKERY In the breakfast business for 50 years, they still serve good migas, huevos rancheros, and hot biscuits with healthy doses of Austin political history. **1511 E. Sixth, 478-2420 \$**

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TAKEOUT: EL REGIO The pollo asado is served with borracho beans, tortillas, grilled onions, tomato salsa, and lime wedges, plus a scrumptious green avocado salsa. **6615 Berkman, 933-9557 \$**

TEX-MEX: INOCENTE'S CAFE A great place to sip an icy *agua de horchata*, enjoy good Tex-Mex cuisine, and soak up the flavor of the neighborhood. **2337 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-0218 \$\$**

SEAFOOD, SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: MR. CATFISH

Everything is made from scratch here. Catfish and seafood dinners with side dishes come in different sizes, depending on your appetite. **1075 Springdale, 927-6666 \$**

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: MR. NATURAL A juice bar, bakery, health-food store, and vegetarian Mexican restaurant in one: your one-stop shop for soybean ceviche, pineapple empanadas, and queen bee royal jelly. **1901 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-5228 \$**

CAJUN/CREOLE: NUBIAN QUEEN LOLA'S CAJUN KITCHEN A proprietess as friendly as her food is good is serving up huge portions of good burgers and Cajun chow from a limited menu. The dining room is communal and friendly, and Lola is a blessing. **1815 Rosewood, 474-LOLA (5652) \$**

LAKE

FINE DINING: EMERALD RESTAURANT This cozy, candlelit cottage with Irish lace curtains and imported Irish bone china has been known for its "continental cuisine" for more than 20 years. **13614 Hwy. 71 W., 263-2147 \$\$\$\$**

FINE DINING: HUDSON'S ON THE BEND A lakeside fine-dining fixture for two decades, specializing in game of all descriptions: rabbit to rattlesnake, pheasant to frogs' legs. The ambience is romantic, too. **3509 RR 620 N., 266-1369 \$\$\$\$**

CHINESE: PAO'S MANDARIN HOUSE Open 24 hours a day Monday through Friday, this Mandarin restaurant offers daily lunch and dinner specials. **2300 Lohman's Spur #134, 263-8869 \$\$**

NORTH

ITALIAN: CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILL Order from the pasta bar, sample one of the wood-fired pizzas, or choose a grilled specialty. The menu also includes the requisite manicotti, lasagna, and spaghetti options. **11590 Research, 345-8232 \$\$\$**

SEAFOOD: CATFISH PARLOUR When the gang's hungry, take a crowd to eat in, or arrange to have them cater your next outdoor fish fry. **11910 Research, 258-1853 \$\$**

ROMANIAN: DRAKULA Discover a few of Romania's favorites like *mititei*: skewered, sliced beef and pork. We also like the stuffed cabbage, stuffed peppers, and Friday fish dishes. Don't miss the homemade pickled vegetable platter. **8120 Research, 374-9291 \$\$**

ITALIAN: ITALIAN GARDEN RESTAURANT From the bowl of croutons on every table to the delicate herbal house dressing, they specialize in hearty southern Italian, "Brooklyn-style" fare. **14611 FM 1325, 388-1062 \$\$**

PIZZA: OASIS PIZZA Start with crumbled feta, biting radish slices, and parsley garnishing a basket of hot flatbread. Kebob plates are another option, with tender meats and lightly charred vegetables. **14735 Bratton #105, 251-5777 \$**

JAPANESE: ORIGAMI Origami is considered one of the top five sushi bars in the area. It's known for its expansive selection of rolls, and the sashimi and sushi menus cover every conceivable want. **110 N. I-35 Ste. 200-B, 238-6522 \$\$\$**

CHINESE: PE CHANG'S CHINA BISTRO NORTH Depend on this popular chain for Chinese favorites and enthusiastic service in a pleasant atmosphere. **10114 Jollyville, 231-0208 \$\$**

BURGER JOINT, DESSERTS, TAKEOUT: PLUCKERS WING FACTORY & GRILL Who ya gonna call when you're craving good wings in the wee hours? These folks are frying and flying until 2am on weekdays and 3am on weekends. **9070 Research Ste. 201-C, 533-WING \$\$**

BARBECUE: RUDY'S COUNTRY STORE & BAR-B-Q Good-quality smoked meats are available by the pound, along with all the light bread, pickles, onions, and peppers you need. **11570 Research, 418-9898 \$**

CAFETERIA/BUFFET: RYAN'S FAMILY STEAKHOUSE Try the Seafood Extravaganza on Friday nights for \$8.99. **1813 W. Parmer, 835-8366 \$\$**

NORTH CENTRAL

BURGER JOINT, TEX-MEX: ALONZO'S/JALAPEÑO JOE'S Present yourself at the window, and order an Angus beef burger or the pile of Tex-Mex sustenance known as the Alonzo Platter, but save room for Ernest's Enchiladas. **4905 Airport, 451-3326 \$**

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: ASTI TRATTORIA For various Italian regional cuisines and an extensive wine list of mostly Italian and Cal-Ital selections, try this Hyde Park corner spot. **408-C E. 43rd, 451-1218 \$\$\$**

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: EL CARIBE A little-known jewel serving a mix of Interior Mexican and more-conventional Mexican fare. Tastes are authentic, the prices are very reasonable, and portions are huge. **5610 N. Lamar, 452-6207 \$\$**

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP, DELIVERY: FOODHEADS Mornings consist of cappuccino, espresso, pastries, and breakfast tacos. By lunchtime, you can choose from a staggering array of sandwiches, soups, salads, and side dishes. **616 W. 34th, 420-8400 \$**

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: JASON'S DELI The sandwich selection ranges from traditional deli to wraps and pita pockets, plus there are special menu sections dedicated to heart-healthy and kids' choices. **1000 E. 41st, 453-8666 \$\$**

VIETNAMESE: LE SOLEIL One of the original Sunflower folks brings us a similar menu with a few new tweaks. Bottom line: It's good and dependable, and it's a fave of Viet families. **9616 N. Lamar #156, 821-0396 \$\$**

ITALIAN: MANDOLA'S ITALIAN MARKET This market/restaurant from Houston's Mandola clan is attracting crowds with imported Italian deli meats and cheeses, fresh-baked rustic breads and pastries, and homemade gelatos and sorbettos. Enjoy well-selected wines by the bottle and the glass and prepared foods to eat in or take out. **4700 N. Lamar, 419-9700 \$**

INTERIOR MEXICAN: OAXACAN TAMALED Hands-down the finest and most flavorful Interior Mexican food in Austin for the portion and the price. Delicious, authentic rotating specials are \$4.98 for lunch, \$6.45 for dinner. Don't miss the banana-leaf-wrapped tamale. **1300 W. Anderson, 289-9262 \$**

SEAFOOD: QUALITY SEAFOOD It's the place where all your favorite restaurants get their seafood, so you know it's the freshest. Hit the oyster bar for lunch or an early dinner. **5621 Airport, 454-5827 \$**

BARBECUE, BURGER JOINT: THE STALLION GRILL You'll find the traditional country fare here solid, tasty, and affordable. Don't miss the homemade rolls and desserts. Now serving breakfast at 6:30am. **5201 Airport, 380-9433 \$**

SOUTH

VIETNAMESE: 888 VIETNAMESE RESTAURANT You'll find traditional dishes seldom seen elsewhere and Asian fusion creations with Thai and Chinese influence. Delicious and inexpensive. BYOB. **2400 E. Oltorf Ste. 1-A, 448-4722 \$**

BARBECUE: ARTZ RIB HOUSE The Austin headquarters where lovers of great barbecue and bluegrass converge. Their thick country-style pork ribs are legendary, and they have live music most nights. **2330 S. Lamar, 442-8283 \$\$**

BARBECUE: BERT'S BAR-B-Q So small you might miss it, but this place has been around forever. Try the chicken. **1200 S. Hwy. 290 W., 288-7879 \$\$**

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: BOULDIN CREEK COFFEEHOUSE & CAFE Pick up a book, play *Battleship*, and enjoy all your favorite coffee drinks along with some killer honey lemonade. They also have a small, vegetarian menu. **1501 S. First, 416-1601 \$**

TEX-MEX: CASA GARCIA'S Offers a wide selection of traditional Tex-Mex favorites as well as an enticing array of Interior Mexican dishes. The *cabrito* is worth a return visit. **1901 W. William Cannon, 441-9504 \$\$**

TEX-MEX: EL MERCADO A very happy hour and home of 99-cent appetizers, nestled in a neon rainforest. **1302 S. First, 447-7445 \$\$**

INTERIOR MEXICAN: GARIBALDI'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT Terrific Mexico City food, a large menu, and modest prices. Best classic chile relleno in town. Open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. **4201 S. Congress #106, 326-9788 \$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: GREEN MUSE CAFE Drinks, pastries, gatherings, bands, Wi-Fi, and movies make this coffee shop a community hangout. **519 W. Oltorf, 912-7789 \$**

INTERIOR MEXICAN: JANITZIO Grab a couple of *cocas en botellas* from the icebox, and choose from among the Michoacan-style steak dinners, seafood platters, sopas, gorditas, tacos, and tortas. **1422 Town Creek Dr., 442-6275 \$**

BURGER JOINT: P TERRY'S BURGER STAND Find burgers fashioned from hormone- and antibiotic-free Black Angus beef, grilled chicken (Buddy's), fresh-cut fries, and milkshakes. Sit at a picnic table on the patio. Dogs get a free biscuit. **404 S. Lamar, 473-2217 \$**

JAPANESE: UMI SUSHI One of the top sushi restaurants in Austin. An aggressive menu with a sizable selection of nigiri. *Chronicle* Restaurant Poll Critics Pick for Best Sushi 2003. **5510 S. I-35 #400, 383-8806 \$\$**

UT

TEX-MEX: EL PATIO These friendly folks have been serving up moderately priced Tex-Mex food with salsa and salsitas since 1954. **2938 Guadalupe, 476-5955 \$\$**

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: FINO RESTAURANT, PATIO & BAR From the owners of the popular Asti Trattoria in Hyde Park come influences from Nice to Morrocco, Italy to Athens to Valencia, all ably executed by chef Tristan White and his team. **2905 San Gabriel #200, 474-2905 \$\$\$**

MIDDLE EASTERN: GYRO KING They carve your spiced meat from one of those rotating triangles. A take on the sandwich beyond the ordinary. **2021 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 479-6222 \$**

PUB GRUB: POSSE EAST Beer and burgers for the pre-, post-, and during-the-game crowds. In-house ATM for those who fit into all three categories. **2900 Duval St., 477-2111 \$**

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: TEXAS FRENCH BREAD Still the perfect places to duck in for a scone, pastry, and cup of coffee. Check out the sandwich menu for light lunch fare. **3213 Red River, 478-8794 \$**

MIDDLE EASTERN: TOM'S TABOOLEY The kitchen offers tabbouleh, dolmas, baklava, gourmet coffee, and lots of surprising tidbits for lunch and dinner. Pick up some brined grape leaves to cook with at home. **2928 Guadalupe, 479-7337 \$**

TEX-MEX: TRUDY'S A wide range of Tex-Mex with a slightly contemporary twist, and fans are crazy about the chipotle salsa and chips. The half-pound burgers are tasty and massive, and they also offer chicken-fried steaks. **409 W. 30th, 477-2935 \$\$**

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: VEGGIE HEAVEN The menu is heavy on Asian dishes but also offers meat- and dairy-free pastas, sandwiches, and desserts. **1914-A Guadalupe, 457-1013 \$**

CHINESE: YEN CHING NOODLE HOUSE Get your noodle fix with homemade noodles and fantastic Ma Po Dofu. **2910 Guadalupe, 472-4754 \$**

WEST

SEAFOOD: CAFE JOSIE Look for inventive food and the rich spices of the equator applied to high-quality meat, fish, and poultry. Nice surroundings and a small but perfect wine list complete the experience. **1200-B W. Sixth, 322-9226 \$\$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE, FINE DINING: CASTLE HILL CAFE After two decades in business, this eatery has a fresh, new look, with a recently redecorated interior and updated menu items. **1101 W. Fifth, 476-0728 \$\$\$**

DESSERTS, FINE DINING: CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Voluptuous, decadent brunch items are served with signature croissants and strawberry butter. Dinner options span a wide range, from pastas to chicken dishes to a variety of salads. **5406 Balcones, 454-2666 \$\$\$**

CHINESE: CHINATOWN Chef's Specials shine – try the Crunchy Rabbit in Orange Sauce, Crispy Whole Fish in Red Chili Sauce, or the Peppercorn Chicken for proof. **3407 Greystone, 343-9307 \$\$**

BARBECUE: GREEN MESQUITE BBQ SOUTH Check out the Oak Hill outpost of this South Austin favorite. Exceptional barbecue at both locations. **7010 Hwy. 71 W., 288-8300 \$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: HANG TOWN GRILL Jetson-era family restaurant with gourmet pizzas and mesquite burgers for mom and dad and combo meals for kids. Outdoor patio. **701 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 347-1039 \$\$**

JAPANESE: MARU JAPANESE CUISINE & SUSHI BAR This inviting little spot offers high-quality sushi and sashimi at reasonable prices, as well as noodle bowls, teriyaki, Bento boxes, and tempura. Keen attention to detail makes this a place to remember. **4636 Burnet Rd., 458-6200 \$\$**

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: NAU'S ENFIELD DRUG A traditional, old-fashioned, mom-and-pop drugstore, with soda fountain/diner, office supplies, and a decent selection of cards and gifts. Not many of these places left. **1115 W. Lynn, 476-1221 \$**

PIZZA: ORIGINAL DAVID'S BRICK OVEN Serves some of the best home-style, thin-crust pizzas in town with a personal touch. **1608 W. 35th, 453-4330 \$\$**

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: PHOENICIA BAKERY & DELI Family-run for 14 years, the Phoenicia serves up the most scrumptious Mediterranean specialties and deli sandwiches around. This is one of Austin's treasures. **4701-A Burnet Rd., 323-6770 \$**

CHINESE: SUZI'S CHINA GRILL & SUSHI BAR Normally priced Chinese food that manages to surpass the mundane, sometimes by a good bit. Vegetarians: Try the eggplant in garlic sauce, but make sure you specify "without pork." **7858 Shoal Creek Blvd., 302-4600 \$\$\$**

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: SWEETISH HILL CAFE & BAKERY This well-loved institution has earned its reputation with excellent breads, cakes, and pastries. They keep it coming through the lunch hour with great sandwiches on fresh bakery bread. **1120 W. Sixth, 472-1347 \$**

VIETNAMESE: TRIUMPH CAFE At this North Austin coffeehouse, the specialty beans and dinner menu are Vietnamese and the live music is classical, jazz, and Christian. **3808 Spicewood Springs, 343-1875 \$**



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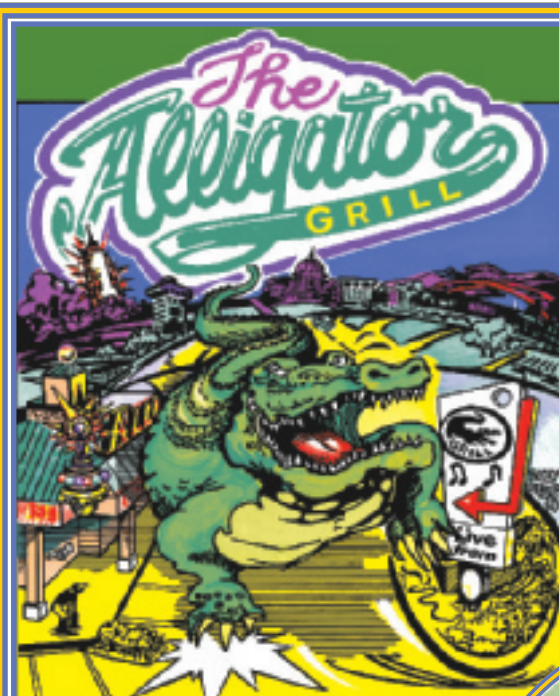
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60 AFS ESSENTIAL: NORTH AFRICA
AND THE MIDDLE EAST
61 TV EYE



'SXSW Presents': Animated Shorts Program

KLRU, Beef & Pie Productions, *The Austin Chronicle*, and South by Southwest have teamed up for *SXSW Presents*, an independent film series airing Tuesdays at 9pm on Channel 18 (Time Warner Cable Channel 9). Hosted and co-produced by SXSW Film producer Matt Dentler, the third season of the series continues through February. This week's installment is a collection of animated shorts. Titles and directors at right; for more information, see www.klrut.org/sxswpresents.

"Pilgrim's Progress" (D: James Dingle)
"Magda" (D: Chel White)
"Filmstrip" (D: Peggy Nelson)
"Heart Collector" (D: Michael Fallik)
"Grasshopper" (D: Bob Sabiston)
"Pilotdrift 'Bubblecraft'" (D: Geoff Marslett)
"Mural" (D: Jose Luis Osorio)
"Famous: The Night Asher the Clown Forgot to Wear His Pants" (D: Adam Parish King)
"The Astronomer" (D: Lance Myers)

FILM NEWS

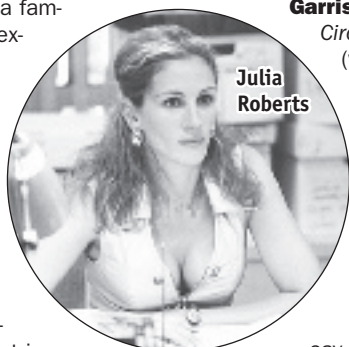
BY JOE O'CONNELL

PRETTY WOMAN AND TRINITY SWING INTO AUSTIN

Rumors that *Fireflies in the Garden*, which has just opened an office in Austin, would feature an all-star cast are indeed true. **Julia Roberts** and **Carrie-Anne Moss** have signed on for the pic, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*. In negotiations are **Ryan Reynolds** and **Emily Watson**. The film from new German company Senator Entertainment is based loosely on the life of writer/director Dennis Lee, who won a 2003 Student Academy Award and "explores the complexities of love and commitment in a family torn apart when faced with an unexpected tragedy." Meanwhile, in the rumors-proven-correct department, CBS pilot *Swingtown* has also opened an office in the capital city. Plans were to shoot in early March, but a certain humongous Interactive/Film/Music event convinced them to wait until later in the month. The show, set in 1976, is about three groovy couples in Winnetka, Ill., who have differing attitudes about open marriages. The cast is reported to include **Grant Show** and **Jack Davenport**. Weather was a strong pull for the show to shoot in Austin, says **Bob Hudgins**, head of the Texas Film Commission. Incentives may be the main lure to keep the series here if it's picked up, which seems likely since CBS Entertainment President **Nina Tassler** has been talking it up with national press.

GUU TARGETS FILM INCENTIVES

He didn't talk about it in his State of the State speech, but Gov. **Rick Perry** did include \$20 million to fund filming incentives into his budget proposal delivered to the Legislature.



The next step is for as-yet-unnamed sponsors to put forth a bill that may or may not stick with that figure (some say it's too small to compete with our neighbors in Louisiana and New Mexico) approved by the Lege in 2005 but left without a means of funding. Already filed as House Bill 374 is a separate measure that would offer state-owned properties for use by filmmakers at no charge. Stay tuned as the players and the figures shake out in the coming weeks.

SXSW GOES LOCO FOR LOCALS

Films made in Texas and/or by Texans are destined to make an impact at the South by Southwest Film Festival, which runs March 9-17. Among them is **Bob Ray** and **Werner Campbell's** Roller Derby documentary, *Hell on Wheels*, which has been five years in the making. Also on tap are **Andrew Garrison's** *Third Ward, TX*; **Marcy Garriott's** doc, *Inside the Circle*; **Laura Dunn's** environmental doc, *The Unforeseen* (which had a successful world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival); and **Bennie Klain's** doc, *Weaving Worlds*. Oh, you want some fiction, too? How about *August Evening*, **Chris Eska's** story of an aging undocumented worker, which shot in southern Texas? Who'd I leave out? Important note: Many of the films were made possible by Texas Filmmakers Production Fund grants from the Austin Film Society. Salute.

AND THE REST ...

Teachers watch free if **Turk Pipkin** has anything to say about it. This Sunday middle and high school teachers can see for free his documentary, *Nobility*, aimed at exploring the world's problems. Showings are at 5 and 8pm at the Arbor... "Interstate: Part I," a short by **Julia Halperin** and **Jason Cortlund** is included in the latest *Journal of Short Film*, a quarterly DVD of exceptional shorts... **Harrison Witt's** short film, "Chickenfüt," about a paranormal clucker, is slated for the San Francisco Independent Film Festival this Sunday. **P.J. Raval** ran the camera, and the cast includes **Cyndi Williams**, **Jeffery Mills**, **Robert Tolaro**, **Dave Jarrott**, and **Charissa Allen**.

Send tips to filmnews@austinchronicle.com.

DVD WATCH

Johan van der Keuken: The Complete Collection, Vol. 1 (Facets, \$79.95): The Dutch documentarian's *I ♥ \$*, *The Eye Above the Well*, and *Face Value* are the drawing cards among the nine hours of material making up four decades' worth of work, but it's such shorts as "On Animal Locomotion" – which illustrates the effect of music on our physicality – and the early "A Moment's Silence" that keep us attuned to his humanist grasp of the abstract and empathetic. One of the more impressive releases of 2006; look for volume two in late March.

Paul Robeson: Portraits of the Artist (Criterion, \$99.95): A formidable commemoration for that most formidable of American renaissance men. Includes new transfers of *The Emperor Jones*, *Borderline*, *Body and Soul*, *Sanders of the River*, *Jericho*, *The Proud Valley*, and *Native Land*, as well as commentaries by Jeffrey C. Stewart and Pearl Bowser, a Pacifica Radio interview with Robeson, and four biographical videos (five, if you include Saul Turell's 1979 "Tribute to an Artist").

The St. Louis Cardinals: 2006 World Series Collector's Edition (A&E Home Video, \$78.95): Pretty much the foremost cinematic achievement of our time. DVD extras on the eight-disc masterpiece include clubhouse celebration footage, personnel interviews, Busch III opening ceremonies (this was the first team since the 1923 Yankees to christen a new park with a world title), a bottle of bourbon, a case of Budweiser, and my brother.

Mutual Appreciation (Homevision, \$26.99): Former Austinite Andrew Bujalski's second film (*Funny Ha Ha*) has managed that decidedly indie trick of setting up extended residence in the consciousness of certain segments of the filmgoing public for years. In this case, it's been two since *Mutual Appreciation* premiered at SXSW, and, as this release – complete with Bujalski short "Peoples House," trailers, posters, festival recaps, and "interjections and observations from the parents of the cast and crew" – makes clear, few films are more deserving of a comfortable spot in your living room.

The Films of Kenneth Anger: Volume One (Fantoma, \$24.98): 1947-1954 saw the ignition of a transgressive blast furnace with "Fireworks," "Puce Moment," "Rabbit's Moon," "Eaux d'Artifice," and "Inaguration of the Pleasure Dome," collected here on DVD for the first time. Worth an hour or two of your time for Anger's commentary – as lamentably little as there is – alone.

The Last Unicorn: 25th Anniversary Edition (Lions Gate, \$19.98): The voice talents of Mia Farrow, Jeff Bridges, and Angela Lansbury come together to tell us to be ourselves. Songs by America. Among the extras are a making-of, a set-top game, and "Schmendrick's Magical Gallery."

Don't Look Back: 65 Tour Deluxe Edition (New Video Group, \$49.95): D.A. Pennebaker supplements his vérité breakthrough with new doc "Bob Dylan: 65 Revisited," plus five more uncut performances, a 168-page book, the alternate cue-card sequence, and more. To which I say, "Pinch me, pinch me: all me dreams come true." – Shawn Badgley



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Actually Living With War

AFS’s latest Essential series, Children of Abraham/Ibrahim, focuses on the films of the Middle East and North Africa

BY JOSH ROSENBLATT

The climax of Bahman Ghobadi’s *Turtles Can Fly* transpires thusly: A 3-year-old Kurdish boy in northern Iraq named Riga, wide-eyed but blind, heir to all the troubles of the world, is tied by a length of rope to a boulder by his teenage mother on the banks of a creek. While the boy’s eyes dart about aimlessly, his mother drops the boulder into the water and – whoosh – the boy is dragged off the rocks and into oblivion. Two seconds, a moment’s courage, and the terrible deed is done.

I was unable to get a sense of how the filmmakers pulled off this scene, though my curiosity was fervent. (Like many of my contemporaries in the DVD generation, I watch films on two levels these days, with the hows catching up fast to the whys in the race to sustain my interest; any movie, no matter how awful, is worth watching with the commentary track turned on.) Was there a last-second edit that allowed them to slip a dummy or a tiny stuntman into the boy’s place, undetectable by the human eye? I couldn’t detect one, even while inching forward frame by frame using the remote control. Did they use special effects, perhaps some sort of CGI manipulation? I can’t imagine such trickery would have fit Ghobadi’s budget or vision. Or was the toddler actually dragged into the water and all shame tossed out with the bathwater in the name of cinematic veracity? It couldn’t be! And yet ...

The scene may serve to illustrate a point: Whether in child-rearing or filmmaking, things are done differently in the Middle East – poor Riga had already survived wandering into a minefield earlier in the film, another incident that wouldn’t land his mother on the cover of *Parenting* magazine (though in mom’s defense, it should be mentioned that magazine cover models are rarely mothers as the result of being raped by Baathist soldiers) – especially in areas

defined by war and institutional disenfranchisement, where kids are raising kids, other kids are risking life and limb to sell mines, and still other kids are the de facto mayors, diplomats, accountants, ombudsmen, defenders, and scroungers for entire villages, as they are in *Turtles Can Fly*, which is set in an impoverished Kurdish refugee village in the days leading up to the war in Iraq. We might want to impose our morals on these mothers and our guidelines on the directors who are telling their stories, but that would be missing the point. The movies and culture of Kurdistan, like those of the rest of the Middle East, from Bahrain to Palestine, are worlds unto themselves, shrouded in mystery and burkas, not to be defined or deterred by Western queasiness.

Which brings us to another point about Middle Eastern cinema (perhaps the one most important for those of us on this side of the world, so far from the action), one that’s been worn by usage but that bears repeating: Life goes on. Despite the bombs and the guns, despite the children with their missing arms and legs, despite the poverty and the unemployment and the despair, human beings simply abide. Because what else are they going to do? Half of Ghobadi’s movie focuses on the mundanity of everyday Kurdish life – the trading of goods, the banality of work, the never-ending search for a working TV antenna – played out under the shroud of Saddam Hussein’s oppressive rule and the impending threat of a U.S. invasion. Human beings, it turns out, rarely just shrivel up and die.

It would be easy for those of us living in the comparative peace of the West to assume that life in the Middle East is a 24-hour inferno, with the forces of radical Islam waging war on secular capitalists, social progressives, and devil Hebrews. Turn on the news here, and

CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM/IBRAHIM: FILMS OF NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

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Tuesday, Feb. 20
Iron Island (D: Mohammad Rasoulof, Iran, 2005, Farsi with English subtitles)

Feb. 27
Satin Rouge (D: Raja Amari, Tunisia, 2002, Arabic and French with English subtitles)

March 6
Turtles Can Fly (D: Bahman Ghobadi, Iran/France/Iraq, 2004, Kurdish with English subtitles)

March 20
James’ Journey to Jerusalem (D: Ra’anan Alexandrowicz, Israel, 2003, Hebrew, English, and Zulu with English subtitles)

March 27
Climates (D: Nuri Bilge Ceylan, Turkey/France, 2006, Turkish with English subtitles)

one can only assume that Israel is a nonstop urban war zone, every bus a bomb on wheels; that Iraq is a world incapable of mundanity, where no reasonable business is, or could be, transacted; and that all the other countries in the region are in a constant state of nervous dread and doomsaying.

Apparently, that isn’t the case. All the movies featured in the latest installment of the Austin Film Society’s Essential Cinema series – Children of Abraham/Ibrahim: Films of North Africa and the Middle East, starting this Tuesday – are stories of the everyday that just happen to take place in a more combustible part of the world than our own. Take the idiosyncratic *Iron Island*, for example, which explores life aboard an abandoned oil tanker in the middle of the Persian Gulf, where poverty-stricken Sunni Arab Badaris from Iran live and work under the watchful eye of the charismatic Capt. Nemat, who is equal parts shaman,

boss, psychiatrist, banker, father, landlord, and matchmaker to those on board. Or Tunisia’s *Satin Rouge* – *Shall We Dance* for belly dancers – a something-less-than-inspired tale of inspiration featuring a middle-aged widow coming out of her shell by coming out of her clothes.

Climates, the newest film from multiple-award-winning Turkish writer/director/actor Nuri Bilge Ceylan (*Distant*), is, for all its post-Antonioni visual ruminating, your basic, garden-variety boy-meets-girl/boy-loses-girl/boy-assaults-different-girl/boy-stalks-first-girl/boy-gets-first-girl-back/boy-inexplicably-ditches-first-girl story – as old as the movies themselves. Ceylan’s long, lingering shots draw us uncomfortably close to a suffocating relationship while somehow keeping its two empty heroes, Bahar and Isa, as far away from us and each other as is cinematically possible. Ceylan deserves extra credit for casting himself as Isa, who, for all his charm and rugged good looks, is about as unlikable as leading men get.

The series’ finest hour and a half will be the screening of *James’ Journey to Jerusalem* on March 20, a film so full of life it’s in danger of spilling over the edges of the screen and down into the aisles. With its story of a young South African Christian pilgrim traveling to Jerusalem who gets sidetracked by the worldly temptations of urban life, the film is a humanistic condemnation/celebration of the perils of modern materialism. Director Ra’anan Alexandrowicz shoots James’ first trip to the shopping mall – a true neon temple – with the same sense of wonder he uses to capture the joy inside the walls of his adopted congregation.

Series curator Chale Nafus mentioned to me that he sometimes thinks of the films in this series in the same way he thinks of the American movie scene of the early 1930s, when viewers would escape into the carefree world of a musical for a few hours before retreating back into the harsh reality of the Great Depression when the lights in the theatre – quite unwished for – came back up. If the analogy holds true, then let *James’ Journey to Jerusalem*, with its vibrant camerawork and shimmering guitar soundtrack and its equal love of God and money, stand as the series’ *Pennies From Heaven*. ■



TV EYE

Program Guide

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

When **Tipper Gore** offered her criticism on rock & roll, the response ranged from polite silence to exasperated accusations of stifling free expression. But when someone like **Byron Hurt** comes forward to criticize rap, he's hard to ignore. A former college football player, a "hip-hop head," and now a filmmaker, Hurt found himself in a unique position to ask "what up?" of the artists he had long admired. It's one thing to write off Tipper Gore as a well-meaning but out-of-touch suburbanite. It's harder to write off a brother, asking some hard questions about the sexism, homophobia, and images of hyper masculinity in music that he himself once embraced, which Hurt does in his excellent and passionate documentary, *Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes*, the next film in the *Independent Lens* series (PBS).

Mos Def, Fat Joe, Chuck D, and Busta Rhymes are a few of the rappers Hurt approaches, along with such cultural critics as **Michael Eric Dyson** and **Beverly Guy-Sheftall**, to get to the root of why violence and misogyny prevail in rap music. The result is a deeply troubling examination of history, the music industry, and racism. Hurt's questions are often met with discomfort, but he can't be ignored (though one interview subject walks out on him). Confronting the status quo is never easy, but Hurt does so tirelessly, with bravery and a good deal of heart.

Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes airs Tuesday, Feb. 20, 10pm on PBS.

What Else Is On?

Real Time With Bill Maher returns Friday at 10pm on HBO... *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* features the O'Donnell family of Austin on Sunday, Feb. 18, at 7pm on ABC... *Star Trek: Beyond the Final Frontier* premieres on Monday, Feb. 19, at 8pm on the History Channel. Using the 2006 auction of *Star Trek* props, costumes, set-pieces, and other memorabilia as a backdrop, this affectionate documentary features interviews with past cast

members, producers, and writers who address the impact of *Star Trek* on popular culture.

After a prolonged holiday hiatus, *Jericho* returns Wednesday at 7pm on CBS.

In Development

While most of us now have our TV viewing on autopilot, in TV land, they are already looking to the next big thing. It's development season, meaning several new series are in the early stages of, well, development. However, a lot can change before the next TV season is announced. Titles change and some series make it to pilot season while others go belly-up long before the new season is announced. In the meantime, it's interesting to see what the networks think viewers will want to watch. Here are a few trends:

1) Dead people. Apparently, the dead are enormously chatty, and there has to be someone around to listen to them. Also prevalent are fantasy series that feature extraterrestrial spies, time traveling, and vampires.

2) Popular films repackaged for TV, old TV series brought into the present, and series inspired from the BBC original. Examples include *The Bionic Woman*, *Sarah Connor Chronicles* (from *Terminator*), *Mr. & Mrs. Smith* (as spies instead of assassins), and *Marlowe* (Phillip Marlowe placed in the present). Borrowing from the BBC are U.S. renditions of *Footballers Wives* and *Life on Mars*.

3) Chick-lit on the small screen or trying to rekindle the *Sex and the City* magic. At least two series feature a foursome of ambitious and powerful friends living and working in the big city.

The truly new and unique can be counted on one hand. Among them, *Wild at Heart* (CW), about a New York vet who relocates his family to a South African game reserve, and *K-Ville* (Fox), about cops in New Orleans trying to keep the peace in post-Katrina conditions.

For a full rundown of what's in development where, check out the Feb. 5 issue of *Broadcasting & Cable*.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at tvaye@austinchronicle.com.

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music

64 BLUE ÖYSTER CULT
68 PHASES & STAGES

TCB music news

BY CHRISTOPHER GRAY

INDIE NEWS

Sixth Street indie-rock outpost the **Parish** and downstairs Louisiana kitchen **Jazz** are on the verge of being sold to a group of investors that includes the general manager of popular lakefront restaurant/bar **Carlos'n Charlie's**, TCB learned this week. According to Jazz and Parish general manager **Chad Stevenson**, current owner **Matthew Reppert** will retain title to the building but has been looking to sell both businesses for a while. "A letter of intent [to sell] has been signed," Stevenson says. "Now they're just crunching numbers." Beloved among musicians and scenesters for its acoustics and warm ambience, the Parish has at times struggled financially, though Stevenson says profits have been up recently. For the moment, nothing much should change, and he emphasizes that the club is not shutting down. "We're not going to have any foreseeable lag," Stevenson says. "We're still booking for now." However, Parish booker and **Zykos** frontman **Mike Booher** leaves next week to assume local-booker duties at **Emo's** from former **Misra Records** owner **Phil Waldorf**. Misra merged with Bay area label **Absolutely Kosher** last month, and Waldorf says since he already wasn't seeing eye-to-eye with his Misra partners, "it seemed like a good time to step aside." Misra bands **Shearwater** and **Evangelicals** have drawn major interest from **Matador** and **Nettwerk**, and Waldorf himself is about to start his own label with backing from a major indie he's not quite ready to name. "As soon as we get a couple of records into production, we'll feel comfortable announcing it," he says, adding a Misra band or two almost certainly will follow him. **Zykos**, meanwhile, is comfortably without a label but has recorded more than two dozen new demos, some of which they've taken to **Spoon** and **Trail of Dead** producer **Mike McCarthy**. The fivepiece, whose last LP was 2004's *Zykos*, recently posted a four-song downloadable EP on their **MySpace** page. "Our Web site got hacked, and we haven't fixed it yet," explains Booher.

ACTION!

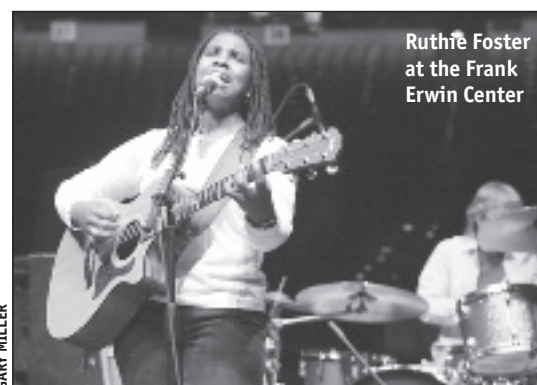
Still struggling in the ratings, NBC's **Friday Night Lights** continues mining the Austin music scene. This week's beneficiaries were **Li'l Cap'n Travis**, who filmed a scene Friday afternoon at the **Continental Club**. "It was kind of silly," singer/guitarist **Matt Kinsey** reports. "We had to do some pantomiming while they recorded dialogue, and that makes you feel like a

Li'l Cap'n Travis

TODD V. WOLFSON



dork." The band played "3.2 Beer of Love" and "Sugar Buzz" in the scene that Kinsey says involves quadriplegic former quarterback **Jason Street's** wheelchair-rugby team. "I don't want to spoil anything for you," he smiles. "Sugar Buzz" is from LCT's forthcoming album, which Kinsey says should be out in a couple of months. "It sounds great," he says. "It's got our version of a couple soulful-type tunes. I wouldn't go all the way and say they're soul tunes." *FNL* also recently revisited the **Broken Spoke** to film a scene that climaxes with a fight in the parking lot. "We've had those before," says Spoke owner **James White**, who appears as a bartender. "Thank goodness they were back in the Sixties and Seventies."



Ruthie Foster
at the Frank
Erwin Center

GARY MILLER

BANG THE DRUM SLOWLY

The **University of Texas** athletics department hopes Austin musicians can help drum up fan interest in the men's and women's basketball teams. "We thought the way to get students to come to basketball would be if we could somehow associate basketball with something they consider to be cool, and the obvious thing here would be music," says Assistant Athletics Director for Marketing **Teri Pierce**. "Also, the music school is right down the street." This season, musicians sit in with the Longhorn band during men's games and perform postgame concerts at women's, and several others (**Roky Erickson**, **Gary Clark Jr.**, **Ray Benson**) recently recorded "Rock the Drum," written by local jazz musician and UT assistant music professor **John Mills**, which UT will use both at games and in ads next year. Pierce says so far it's been a harmonious relationship: "The musicians love it. **Sara Hickman** and **Ruthie Foster** were just thrilled."

BULLET THE BLUE SKY

Ladies and gentlemen, the lineup for the **2006/2007 Austin Music Awards**, Wednesday, March 14 in the **Austin Convention Center's Ballroom A**: **Bobby Whitlock**, **CoCo Carmel**, and **Stephen Bruton**; **Barbara Kooyman** & the **Unstrung Heroes** of **TexAmericana** with **Carrie Rodriguez**; **Ian McLagan** & the **Bump Band**; **Tex Mex Experience** with **Texas Tornadoes** and **Sam the Sham**; and a "Six Strings Down" **Clifford Antone** tribute with **Derek O'Brien**, **Gary Clark Jr.**, and more. Have a good thought for Bruton, who friends say is battling throat cancer and seeking treatment at Houston's **M.D. Anderson** hospital but will keep what **Resentments** gigs he can.



Dixie Chicks on ACL, 2006

SCOTT NEWTON

AWARD TOUR

The **Dixie Chicks** won everything that wasn't nailed down at last Sunday's **Grammy Awards** in Los Angeles; *Taking the Long Way* and "Not Ready to Make Nice" made them the first artists to sweep Record of the Year, Song of the Year, and Album of the Year since **Eric Clapton** in 1993. Texans **David Grissom**, **Charlie Robison** (hugging wife **Emily**), and **Ray Benson** all got national face time, but the night's real winner was former **Texas Playboys** fiddler **Johnny Gimble**, whose 82-year-old heart somehow withstood the flirtations of smokin' Oklahoma siren **Carrie Underwood** during **Bob Wills** tribute "San Antonio Rose." Accepting her Best New Artist award, Underwood likewise flustered presenter and Lifetime Achievement honoree **Ornette Coleman**. Across the country, Emo's, **I Love You but I've Chosen Darkness**, **Voxtro**, the **Black Angels**, the **Sword**, **Alejandro Escovedo**, and the **Austin City Limits Music Festival** were all shut out at the "Indie Grammys" (NYC's **Plug Awards**), but **South by Southwest** took home Best Festival. Speaking of...

THE LONG MARCH

The SXSW band list is slowly sinking in. Sure, there's the usual crop of indie stars (**Faint**, **Dears**, **Emily Haines**) and UK buzz bands (**Horror**, **Errors**, **Cinematics**), but it's equally heavy on blasts from the past, in the form of broken-up local bands (**River City Rapists**, **Chumps**, **Yuppie Pricks**), bygone college rockers (**Cracker**, **Buffalo Tom**), fallen Nashville stars (**Tracy Byrd**, **Tracy Lawrence**), and people *nobody* knew were still alive (**Charlie Louvin**, **Eddie Floyd**). Hide the **Stevie Ray Vaughan** memorabilia, because the **Icarus Line** is coming back, and APD is already on standby for the **Ozomatli**/**Public Enemy** free show at **Auditorium Shores** – not because they're worried about the Latino hip-hoppers starting another riot, but to protect **Flavor Flav** from the legion of female admirers wanting to co-star in his next VH1 reality show. SXSW will announce where to buy wristbands sometime this month, but only through its **SMS** messaging service; sign up at SXSW.com.



Shore things:
SXSW metal
monsters Boris

Be careful out there: An unidentified woman was taken to **Brackenridge Hospital** around 2am Friday after stepping off the curb near **Plush** and being hit by a car. About 24 hours later, **Nidge Miller**, frontman and guitarist for legendary UK hardcore group **Blitz**, was struck and killed by a car while crossing the **I-35** feeder road after the band's Emo's show.

Former **Sex Pistols** and **Pil** frontman **John Lydon**, aka **Johnny Rotten**, judged the **Bodog Battle of the Bands** contest, an upcoming reality show/tour wherein one band is eliminated in each city, at **La Zona Rosa** last Friday. (No Austin acts competed.) Lydon also surfaced at **Fadó** Sunday morning to watch soccer and rugby. "At one point Johnny pulled a silk **Union Jack** handkerchief out of his pocket and blew his nose," relays a TCB spy. "This got the crowd really excited."

Death Valley Nights

Heavy metal love: Blue Öyster Öccultism

BY RAOÛL HERNANDEZ

Blake Mutter, blond, lanky, in his ever-present BÖC concert tee, repeated the lyric, heavy metal mysticism firing his blue eyes.

“He-devil, she-devil ... I love you like sin.” Junior high home economics lesson No. 666: Pentagrams! You couldn’t beat the late Seventies with a stick. I smiled back at him reassuringly.

Too late it turns out. That’s me removing a Blue Öyster Cult tape, \$8.99 list, from my sock on the sidewalk outside a record store before all too long. And not just because of BÖC either. Had this mom-and-pop hole in the wall not rolled like a biker bar, things might have turned out different. Pulpny sunlight sludging through honeycomb windows, ye olde decor, mustachioed Camaro owners in bell-bottom corduroys. The Devil handed me the cassette.

Could’ve been/should’ve been 1976’s *Agents of Fortune*, off which “Sinful Love” suckled in the shadows of biggest hit “(Don’t Fear) The Reaper.” *Mirrors*, maybe, paging “Dr. Music” in ’79. ’Twas the twener: *Spectres*, 1977. Opener “Godzilla” had already demolished both FM radio and Tokyo, “with a purposeful grimace and a terrible sound.” Even in this art-challenged format, the cover reeked of the occult. Blue Öyster Öccult.

*He picks up a bus and he throws it back down
As he wades through the buildings toward the
center of town*

*Oh no, they say he’s got to go
Go go Godzilla – yiiiieeah!
Oh no, there goes Tokyo
Go go Godzilla – yiiiieeah!*

Donald “Buck Dharma” Roeser’s buzzing, high-tension-wire guitars; Japanese bulletins bouncing off bunker walls; and a recoiling refrain chorused by some sort of Freemason society – prehistoric tongue-in-cheek crunch born of the drive-in and infinitely retecast. Improbably, “Godzilla” proved a *Spectral* runt. Once that same men’s choir hoisted their beer steins on the succeeding cut, Harley horsemen “poised on the brink of eternity,” any suspicion surrounding this particular cult vanished. Hail the “Golden Age of Leather.”

Blue Öyster Cult was no Thin Lizzy, though; saints preserve Phil Lynott and his medieval musings (austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?oid=oid%3A325840). For all its evocations



SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

Accompanying this week’s Sony Legacy reissue of *Spectres*, its 1978 live offshoot has finally grown into its title. Originally truncated at 36 minutes, *Some Enchanted Evening* now rumbles at twice the run time without sacrificing any of MC5’s “Kick Out the Jams” or diluting “(Don’t Fear) The Reaper.” Equally savory is the hourlong DVD, same tour, different source, and no less *Saturday Night Live* worthy, particularly Joe Bouchard’s fleet-fingered bass solo opening “5 Guitars,” the BÖC showstopper.

of the “year of our lord AD,” “a last crusade, a final outrage,” and sacred vows to “die as we had lived,” *Spectres* blood-and-oil-stained “Golden Age of Leather” mocks epic metallurgy even as the Long Island, N.Y., quintet rides out its rousing embodiment. “Four and 90 studded horsemen closed the knot of honor,” sure, but only in “this day of flaccid plumage.” Battle begun, they flail “at each other like bugs at a light.” Mumbo jumbo in any other theatre, yet here, dying “valiantly” came promised with a sweeping bow at the curtain call.

All the while, chopper riffs pull wheelies left channel then right, bass surfing easily underneath, until the tempo doubles and a lancing lead prompts the heavenly chorale to cry, “Dawn colored the sky.” Competing harmonic factions call and respond – back, over, across – while musical tides heed the pull of the moon. Shifting tone, perspective, and all manner of voice, “Golden Age of Leather” hoofs it like *West Side Story*, thrusting and kicking at the floodlights, its “solitary shaft of chromium steel” at the finale an operatic antidote. Perhaps the Devil really does wears Prada – tights.

Fireworks

Catherine Deneuve, blond, stand-offish, black-hole-beautiful, went to my high school. The French Revolution’s personification of beauty, Marianne, once modeled after the Parisian actress, materialized fully formed out of the *Weird Science* bombshell incubator and, to quote the Lizard King, walked on down the hall. Months of sum-



moned resolve were duly rewarded with her encore to our rainy day lunchtime meet ’n’ greet: During fifth period, her family cashed out the Bay Area for Southern California.

“Burnin’ for You” smoldered still on BÖC’s last solar flare, 1981’s *Fire of Unknown Origin*, when a certain she-devil reappeared in a hallway just down from the first, one year later, in a nearly undetectable puff of sulfur. So began my own “Golden Age of Leather.” Leather and lace. Or rather, corduroy and Yves St. Laurent/Christian Dior/Prada.

To first love one promises eternity. The returns vary. This one came with corporate trappings: a large house, two-way radio in the trunk of dad’s Olds (in case of kidnapping), and two older screwups. She was the white sheep of the family. And you know what they say about lupine lamb’s wool.

Charles Manson probably never crossed my mind when she led me to the back room of the house. I was the only male other than her brother allowed in the hindmost kids’ quarters, and on the wall-to-wall carpet of the communal listening station, the answer was spelled out in vinyl strewn around a cheap turntable: Sabbath, Zeppelin, Maiden, Deep Purple, Def Leppard, Scorpions, UFO. She smiled sweetly, Princess Grace, only now I could see the silver studs in her Blakeian blues.

Milady’s boudoir would’ve sat next to the linen closet at the Waldorf-Astoria. Except for the poster. Behind the door. Sanctuary always locks the escape hatch, especially when there’s something needing protection. That didn’t happen for months, but when our smackdowns finally graduated off the floor, Bon Scott cackled with glee. *Highway to Hell* translates as the AC/DC hyena, bare-chested in bulging blue

jeans, leering down at my brown eyeball blinking through Rapunzel’s cascading locks, directly opposite. So this was “Sinful Love.”

College doubled as the draft, so I skulked south, first-generation boom box our lifeline. Now thoroughly possessed by my mate’s metallic peccadilloes, I cut and pasted a 90-minute pledge of chromium steel balladry – Pink Floyd, Aerosmith, Rainbow. A pair of *Spectres*. Elvira had lit her very own *Fire of Unknown Origin* that year away at the convent; *Agents of*

That’s me removing a Blue Öyster Cult tape, \$8.99 list, from my sock on the sidewalk outside a record store.

Fortune were her siblings’ intimates. Mine were new ghosts. Over the next seven years that TDK tape loop summoned the witching hour’s feverish rituals, entwined through two separate strands of DNA – hers and mine. Worship the soft white underbelly.

R. U. Ready 2 Rock

Albert Bouchard, drummer, Soft White Underbelly/Oaxaca/Stalk-Forrest Group/Blue Öyster Cult, 1967-1981:

Austin Chronicle: Let’s just say it: You were the best songwriter in a cabal of them, and seldom more so than with your contributions to *Spectres*.
Albert Bouchard: I’m a little OCD. When I’m arranging things, I like them to be right. You know, with a song, there are a lot of things:

You have to have an element of surprise; you have to have balance; you have to have depth of emotion. You have to have all these things. "Death Valley Nights" is one where it was just me and [BÖC brain trust/lyricist] Richard Meltzer. Richard was really going through a rough time when he wrote that song, and it's one of the most heartfelt lyrics he ever came up with.

AC: What about "Fireworks"?

AB: The only lyric I ever wrote on a Blue Öyster Cult record by myself was "Fireworks." I wrote that about a girl I was going with. It was a tender love song, basically. [Laughing] She'd kill me if she heard me saying this, but she had never had an orgasm, so this was the story of her having an orgasm for the first time. [BÖC Svengali] Sandy Pearlman made fun of me for the line "To consummate their love at last." He'd say, "You mean they're gonna make some soup?"

AC: Your other grand ascension on Spectres is "R. U. Ready 2 Rock."

AB: That started with Sandy. He was on the phone with Patti Smith. It was Easter. There was some show about Jesus on TV. They were both watching it and talking about what a great image Easter is: of coming back to life, of rebirth. So they both started writing a song; hers was "Easter" and his "R. U. Ready 2 Rock." The thing started out with the bridge, "I only live to be born again." That was his first line. He came in with a set of lyrics; I put music to it. He didn't like it. He came in with different lyrics; I put different music to it. He

didn't like it. We kept going back and forth, back and forth. Each time we'd redo it, we'd save a little piece. So it took about a year to write. We knew there was something great there, but it wasn't "The Reaper," which was written in five minutes. Donald would get these ideas, and it'd be *pow* – full-blown song. **AC:** You mentioned Patti Smith. Some of your best songs are co-writes with her.

AB: We were buddies, still are, but I don't think I ever really sat down with Patti and said, "Okay, let's write a song." It was more like she'd have an idea, she'd tell me about it, I'd start working on it, she'd tweak stuff for me, and then we'd have a song. "Career of Evil," I basically took everything that she wrote and threw it into a song. "The Revenge of Vera Gemini" was the first song she ever gave me – before "Baby Ice Dog." She gave it to me on my birthday. I think it was '73. I wrote a song that night – the night of my birthday. The next day I played it for Donald, and he says, "That's awful. Horrible. It sounds just like Bob Dylan." So it was back to the drawing board. "Vera" took years to write.

AC: To what do you attribute your gift for arrangements?

AB: To me, Beethoven is the ultimate. I still cannot get over how he did some of these things. He broke every rule. He had a very long career, but not a lot of output because he would rework things forever. He was not like Mozart. Mozart was like Donald: The ideas would just burst out of his head fully formed.

continued on p.66

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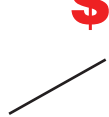
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How “The Reaper” came about was just amazing. Donald wrote the whole thing in one go. He played it to me over the phone.

AC: “*The Reaper*” was a huge hit, as was *Agents of Fortune*. How much pressure was there to follow it up with *Spectres*?

AB: Gooooood question: Unbelievable pressure. And really the thing was, once we had a taste of having a hit, that became the criteria of what would make it onto this record. We’d gone from trying to be very different than everybody else, and if it sounded too commercial we wouldn’t do it on the first three records. Then we had success. We had money. All of a sudden we were filling huge halls and headlining. We wanted to continue that. I would say that if *Spectres* had a weakness, it would be that we started feeling materialistic about the whole thing.

AC: Did *Spectres* turn out the way the band wanted?

AB: A lot. I was disappointed in a couple of the songs. “Death Valley Nights” came out good. I was disappointed in “Golden Age,” which I thought should’ve sounded heavier, but it was Donald’s song, and he liked it. “Fireworks” I was disappointed with. I thought it wasn’t as smooth as the song I was imitating, [Boston’s] “More Than a Feeling.” I’d put them on side by side: “Aw, man! This is *not* as good” [laughs]. Then Bruce Springsteen came in, saying, “What? Are you kidding me? This is great. This is a hit. I’d be happy to have written this song.” He was working on *Born to Run* in the studio next door.

I Love the Night

Donald “Buck Dharma” Roeser’s silky “I Love the Night” acts as *Spectres*’ nightshade, its beladonna. Like his parched and bloody “Then Came the Last Days of May,” drifting though the band’s transmaniacal debut, and later the guitarist’s co-seance with Patti Smith on *The Revölution by Night* centerpiece “Shooting Shark,” Roeser’s

nocturnal caress kills. “No mortal was meant to know such wonder,” laments the song’s suede-voiced soul possessed. “One look in the mirror told me so.” My own “lady in white” wish fulfillment exacted a similarly Mephistophelian tariff.

“Come Softly to Me,” the Fleetwoods lullaby cooed by Buck Dharma and his wife, Sandy, on 1982 solo album *Flat Out* (reissued at www.woundedbird.com), impersonates *Spectres* only now that the BÖC apparition has been appended with a faithful, previously unreleased cover of the Ronettes’ “Be My Baby.” Fading out my tape same as its LP, “Come Softly” came sequenced specifically for my shark. “Buck Dharma,” she’d whisper with relish.

Roeser and Bouchard met their first week at Clarkson College, piling into the school auditorium for a lecture on the importance of physical education. The latter, from the French-Canadian side of upstate New York’s 1,000 Islands, spotted his Long Island, N.Y., counterpart immediately.

“I was looking at the size of all these fellow engineers, future engineers,” remembers Bouchard, “and I see this one short guy. So, I fall in behind him, and I say, ‘Hey, man, you’re the first guy I’ve seen who’s as short as me.’

“He’s like, ‘Oh, that’s great.’

“The second time I saw him was at the freshman talent show when he and his roommate were playing a song. I knew the roommate, so I went and said hi. Since I’d heard Donald’s guitar playing, I said, ‘Gee, you’re almost as good as my brother.’

“He goes, ‘Who’s your brother?’

“I was like, ‘Oh ... his name is Joe.’”

One best friendship later, on the *Fire of Unknown Origin* European tour leg, Roeser was even less amused by his free-spirited comrade.

“After the show, my girlfriend and one of the wives get into a screaming match,” recounts Bouchard. “So, I came in, and yelled at the wife. Called her some names. Then I went back to the dressing room, and Donald came over, saying, ‘You just threatened my wife.’

“I said, ‘No, I was just ... I’m sorry. I lost my temper. I’ll apologize. I called her some bad names.’

“He’s goes, ‘No, you *threatened* my wife. That’s it. You’re out.’

“I said, ‘No, no, no. I’ll apologize, I’m sorry. I just lost my temper.’

“He said, ‘Nope. No. We’re sending you home.’

“That was it.”

For me too that day arrived. May 1989.



Agents of Fortune (clockwise from top left): Eric Bloom, Donald “Buck Dharma” Roeser, Allen Lanier, Albert Bouchard, and Joe Bouchard. Like the Band, five songwriters became one doo-wop at the mic.

uncanny aural doppelgänger Joe Bouchard and Helen Wheels had brought to life. The Bouchard brothers’ supremely *Secret Treaties*, howling “Astronomy,” *Fire of Unknown Origin*’s hellbent “Vengeance (the Pact),” even Joe’s uncredited piano intro to Albert’s harrowing “Joan Crawford,” had finally met their match more than 20 years after the fact. Heart stake not heartbreak.

*Only a woman can break his spell
Pure in heart, who will offer herself
To Nosferatu*

“We’ve always had a good relationship,” warms Albert Bouchard regarding the Dharma-Roesers. “And after all this time we still have a good relationship.”

A 20-year veteran of NYC’s high school system, currently teaching music and transitioning his band, the Brain Surgeons (www.cellsum.com), Bouchard recently took in a 1,000-seater by Blue Öyster Cult, which, consistent with most classic rock institutions, still counts its frontline intact – Roeser, lead vox Eric Bloom, and keyboardist Allen Lanier – but with a younger rhythm section. In the past few years, “Death Valley Nights” has risen again in Bouchard’s various acts, as opposed to when he used to “ruin” it live with BÖC.

“People *really* respond to that song,” he laughs. “They say things like, ‘I played it at my wedding. ... I played it at my divorce.’”

I’ll probably opt for something more traditional, Bouchard’s “Dominance and Submission” for instance, but make no mistake. With any single track on *Spectres*, or any other BÖC treatise for that matter, I always reminisce wonderingly about one person in particular: Blake Mutter. ■

Nosferatu

Joe Bouchard’s punk muse, Helen Wheels, began as Albert Bouchard’s priestess on *Agents of Fortune*, rattling off “Sinful Love” and the huffing “Tattoo Vampire.” On *Spectres*, Wheels (née Robbins) teamed with BÖC bass-playing brother Joe on starry night “Celestial the Queen” and final nail in the coffin “Nosferatu,” the fiend sealing the deal.

“That night her kiss told me it was over,” begins “I Love the Night.” And when it was, she took Buck Dharma, *Flat Out*, and *Spectres*, well, you’d sooner get my skeleton. A broken heart abhors its past-life music cues, even in the face of nostalgia’s martyrdom. Left untouched were Albert Bouchard’s limpid piano chords and plaintive vocal on “Death Valley Nights,” its methane guitar, and the rapturous “Fireworks.” No cowbell, thanks.

For me, *Spectres* had always wrapped with “I Love the Night,” only because the album’s actual final track fluttered in a most unsettling manner. Not until last decade at the Alamo Drafthouse did F.W. Murnau’s 1922 silent shocker, *Nosferatu*, confirm the

PRINCE ALBERT (BY BOUCHARD)

- “Transmaniacon MC,” *Blue Öyster Cult*
- “I’m on the Lamb but I Ain’t No Sheep,” *Blue Öyster Cult*
- “Cities on Flame With Rock & Roll,” *Blue Öyster Cult*
- “The Red & the Black,” *Tyranny and Mutation*
- “Baby Ice Dog,” *Tyranny and Mutation*
- “Career of Evil,” *Secret Treaties*
- “Dominance and Submission,” *Secret Treaties*
- “Astronomy,” *Secret Treaties*
- “This Ain’t the Summer of Love,” *Agents of Fortune*
- “The Revenge of Vera Gemini,” *Agents of Fortune*
- “Sinful Love,” *Agents of Fortune*
- “Tattoo Vampire,” *Agents of Fortune*
- “Debbie Denise,” *Agents of Fortune*
- “Death Valley Nights,” *Spectres*
- “Fireworks,” *Spectres*
- “R. U. Ready 2 Rock,” *Spectres*
- “Unknown Tongue,” *Cultösaurs Erectus*
- “Fire of Unknown Origin,” *Fire of Unknown Origin*
- “Vengeance (the Pact),” *Fire of Unknown Origin*
- “Joan Crawford,” *Fire of Unknown Origin*



BÖCATALOG (COLUMBIA)

- Blue Öyster Cult* (1972) ★★★★★
- Tyranny and Mutation* (1973) ★★★★★
- Secret Treaties* (1974) ★★★★★
- On Your Feet or on Your Knees* (1975) ★★★★★
- Agents of Fortune* (1976) ★★★★★
- Spectres* (1977) ★★★★★
- Some Enchanted Evening* (1978) ★★★★★
- Mirrors* (1979) ★★
- Cultösaurs Erectus* (1980) ★★
- Fire of Unknown Origin* (1981) ★★★★★
- Extraterrestrial Live* (1982) ★★
- The Revölution by Night* (1983) ★★
- Club Ninja* (1986) ★
- Imaginos* (1988) ★★

Aa (Brooklyn NY)	Beach House (Baltimore MD)	Bright Light Fever (Sacramento CA)	Clorox Girls (Portland OR)	Dionysos (Valence FRANCE)	Dana Falconberry (Austin)	Grand Buffet (Pittsburgh PA)	Imaginary Icons (NY NY)	Seth Lakeman (Devon UK)
AA Sound System (Edmonton AB)	Beangrowers (St Julians MALTA)	Brighton, MA (Chicago IL)	Cloud Cult (Minneapolis MN)	dies Hawthorne (CA)	Fancy (Paris)	Grand Champeen (Austin)	Immaculate Machine (Victoria BC)	Dawn Landes (Brooklyn NY)
A Band Of Bees (Ventnor UK)	The Beasts Of Bourbon (Melbourne AUSTRALIA)	Broadfield Marchers (Louisville KY)	The Clutters (Nashville TN)	Dirty Fuzz (London UK)	David Farias (San Antonio TX)	Grand Island (Oslo NORWAY)	The Immediate (Dublin IRELAND)	Land Of Talk (Montreal QC)
Aberdeen City (Boston MA)	Beat the Devil (Brooklyn NY)	Luke Brodie (Mexico City MEXICO)	C-MON & Kypski (Utrecht THE NETHERLANDS)	Dirty Harry (LA CA)	Fatal Flying Guillotine (Houston)	The Grass (Dartmouth NS)	Imperial Teen (San Francisco)	Jon Langford (Chicago IL)
The A-Bones (Brooklyn NY)	Howie Beck (Toronto ON)	Stephen Brodsky's Octave Museum (Boston MA)	Coaxial (Long Beach CA)	Dirty on Purpose (Brooklyn NY)	The Favours (Hull UK)	The Gray Kid (LA CA)	Indian Jewelry (Houston TX)	Langhorne Slim (Langhorne PA)
About (Amsterdam)	Thavius Beck (LA CA)	Broken Teeth (Austin)	Dennis Coffey (Detroit MI)	Dirty Projectors (Brooklyn NY)	The Federation (Oakland CA)	Great Northern (LA CA)	Infadels (London UK)	LAPKO (Helsinki FINLAND)
A Cursive Memory (LA CA)	Bedroom Walls (Highland Park CA)	The Broken West (LA CA)	Cold War Kids (Fullerton CA)	The Dirty Skirts (Cape Town SOUTH AFRICA)	The Femurs (Seattle WA)	The Great Spy Experiment (Singapore SINGAPORE)	James Intveld (Nashville TN)	Jeremy Larson (Springfield MI)
Peter Adams And The Nocturnal Collective (Cincinnati OH)	Kim Beggs (Whitehorse NWT)	Tom Brosseau (LA CA)	Chris Colepaugh and the Cosmic Crew (Moncton NB)	Disco Ensemble (Helsinki FINLAND)	Fernando (Portland OR)	Ruby Isle (Athens GA)	Inward Eye (Winnipeg MB)	The Last Town Chorus (Brooklyn NY)
Pierre Aderme (Rio de Janeiro)	Beirut (Albuquerque NM)	Brother Ali (Minneapolis MN)	Paula Cole (Rockport MA)	Dislike (Ufa RUSSIA)	Ferraby Lionheart (LA CA)	The Isles (NY NY)	Joseph Israel (Fayetteville AR)	Jim Lauderdale (Nashville TN)
Aesop Rock (Brooklyn NY)	Marit Bergman (Stockholm)	Brother Reade (LA CA)	COLISEUM (Louisville KY)	Division Minuscula (Matamoros MEXICO)	Field Music (Sunderland UK)	I Walk The Line (Helsinki FINLAND)	IV Thieves (Nottingham UK)	Tracy Lawrence (Nashville TN)
A Fine Frenzy (LA CA)	The Berg Sans Nipple (Paris)	Brothers And Sisters (Austin)	Coloumusc (Stillwater OK)	DJ Babu (Corona NY)	The Figgs (NY NY)	Jack (Brooklyn NY)	Grit Boys (Houston TX)	Le Meu Le Purr (Ventura CA)
After Forever (Reuver THE NETHERLANDS)	Bermuda Triangle (Oslo NORWAY)	The Brought Low (NY NY)	Colour Revolt (Oxford MS)	DJ Chill Presents Young Samm, Short Texas, Kenika, Lil Boom, 2 Deep (Houston TX)	Finde (Mexico City MEXICO)	Jack O and The Tearjerkers (Memphis TN)	Hugo Guerrero (Dallas TX)	Lemurians (San Francisco)
Afterhours (Milano ITALY)	The Besnard Lakes (Montreal QC)	Marc Broussard (Carenco LA)	Graham Colton (Oklahoma City OK)	DJ Domo & Good Grief of the Coughhee Brothaz (Houston TX)	Fink (Brighton UK)	Joel Guzman/Sarah Fox (Austin)	The Hacienda Brothers (Tucson AZ)	The Lemurs (Austin)
Against Me! (Gainesville FL)	Best Fwends (Ft Worth TX)	Findlay Brown (London UK)	the Comas (Brooklyn NY)	DJ E (Brooklyn NY)	Finn's Motel (St Louis MO)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Hammers of Misfortune (San Francisco)	The Lennings (Austin)
Airbourne (Melbourne AUSTRALIA)	Jello Biafra (San Francisco)	Kev Brown (Baltimore MD)	Billy Cook (Houston TX)	DJ Franki Chan (LA CA)	Fish Karma (San Antonio TX)	Albert Hammond, Jr. (NY NY)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Sean Lennon (NY NY)
Air Traffic (Bournemouth UK)	Jim Bianco (LA CA)	Pieta Brown (Iowa City IA)	Elizabeth Cook (Nashville TN)	DJ Jester the Filipino Fist (San Antonio TX)	Flaming Fire (Jersey City NJ)	Jandek (Houston TX)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Sondre Lerche (Bergen NORWAY)
Akimbo (Seattle WA)	Bible of the Devil (Chicago IL)	Ane Brun (Stockholm SWEDEN)	Cool Calm Pate (NY NY)	DJ Paparazzi (LA CA)	Flostradamus (Chicago IL)	Jape (Dublin IRELAND)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lesbian (Seattle WA)
Tetuzi Akiyama (Tokyo JAPAN)	Big Bang (Oslo NORWAY)	Brute Force & Daughter of Force (NY NY)	Hugh Cornwell (London UK)	DJ Paparazzi (LA CA)	Danny Flowers (Nashville TN)	Jarhead (Houston TX)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Les Breastfeeders (Montreal QC)
Alabama Thunderpussy (Richmond VA)	Big Ben (Fort Worth TX)	Jim Bryson (Ottawa ON)	Corretown (Yuba City CA)	The Dodos (Dodo Bird) (San Francisco)	Foals (Oxford UK)	Jessie J (Miami FL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Les Clapouf/Electric Apricot (Sebastopol CA)
Alamo Race Track (Amsterdam)	Big Business (LA CA)	Bubonic Plague (LA CA)	The Coydogs (Brooklyn NY)	Dok Holiday & Set 4 Life (Austin)	Fog (Minneapolis MN)	Jel (Oakland CA)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Les Savy Fav (Brooklyn NY)
The Alarm Clocks (Cleveland OH)	Big Chief (Dallas TX)	Buck 65 (Mt. Uniacke NS)	CPC Gangbangs (Montreal QC)	Thomas Dolby (San Francisco)	Fog (Minneapolis MN)	Ben Jelen (NY NY)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lexie Mountain Boys (Baltimore)
Allison (Mexico D.F. MEXICO)	Big City (Psycho Les, Al Tariq & Problem?) (Queens NY)	Buddy (LA CA)	The Crack Pipes (Austin)	Dolly Varden (Chicago IL)	Fad Fonseca (Lisbon PORTUGAL)	JESU (Birmingham UK)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	The Life And Times (Kansas City)
All the Saints (Atlanta GA)	Bigg Jus (NY NY)	The Budos Band (Staten Island NY)	The Crash (Turku FINLAND)	Do Make Say Think (Montreal QC)	The Forecast (Peoria IL)	Jets Overhead (Victoria BC)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lil Buck and the Top Cats featuring Stanley Buckwheat Dural (Lafayette LA)
All Time Low (Baltimore MD)	Big Sid (San Angelo TX)	Buffalo Killers (Cincinnati OH)	the Creteens (Paris)	Don Caballero (Pittsburgh PA)	Foreign Islands (Brooklyn NY)	Eilen Jewel (Boise ID)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lit! Cap'n Travis (Austin)
ALOE (NY NY)	The Big Sleep (Brooklyn NY)	Buffalo Tom (Boston MA)	the Creteens (Paris)	Stephanie Dosen (Nashville TN)	The Forms (NY NY)	Alih Jey (Miami FL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lil Allen (Hammersmith UK)
Alternative Champs (Charlotte NC)	Carly Binding (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Vashti Bunyan (Edinburgh UK)	Al Croce (San Diego CA)	Dosh (Minneapolis MN)	Forro in the Dark (NY NY)	Alin Jey (Miami FL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Limbeck (Orange County CA)
AM (New Orleans LA)	Bionic (Montreal QC)	The Burden Brothers (Dallas TX)	Rob Crow (San Diego CA)	Luke Doucet (Toronto ON)	Ruthie Foster (Austin)	Jo Grey and MOFO (Jacksonville FL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lionheart Brothers (Oslo NORWAY)
Amber Pacific (Seattle WA)	Scott H. Biram (Austin)	Burning Star Core (Columbus OH)	Cruiserweight (Austin)	The Downbeat 5 (Boston MA)	Fouled Out (Nashville TN)	Joan as Police Woman (Brooklyn)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lions (Austin)
Scott Amendola (Berkeley CA)	Andrew Bird (Chicago IL)	Burrito Deluxe (Nashville TN)	Crystal Castles (Toronto ON)	The Downy (LA CA)	400 Blows (LA CA)	Johnnossi (Stockholm SWEDEN)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lions In The Street (Vancouver BC)
American Flamewip (Winnipeg MB)	The Bird and the Bee (LA CA)	Budriver (LA CA)	The Cubical (Liverpool UK)	Daniel Francis Doyle (Austin)	14K (Houston TX)	Daniel Johnston and the Nightmares (Waller TX)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Eliot Lipp (NY NY)
American Princes (Little Rock AR)	Bird featuring Mark Burgess of the Chameleons (Hamburg GERMANY)	Johnny Bush (San Antonio TX)	Jill Cuniff (Brooklyn NY)	Dragons of Zynth (Brooklyn NY)	Kevin Fowler (Amarillo TX)	Mike Jones (Las Vegas NV)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Listener (Fayetteville AR)
Amp Fiddler (Detroit MI)	Carly Binding (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Nick Butcher (Chicago IL)	Cut Off Your Hands (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	The Drams (Denton TX)	Hella (Sacramento CA)	Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings (Brooklyn NY)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Little Barrie (London UK)
Amplified Heat (Houston TX)	Cache Cache (Baltimore MD)	Buttercup (San Antonio TX)	Cyann & Ben (Paris)	The Draymin (Dunfermline UK)	Hell Razah (Brooklyn NY)	Junior Boys (Hamilton ON)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Little Joe (Temple TX)
AM Syndicate (Austin)	Cadence Weapon (Edmonton AB)	George Byrne (Melbourne AUSTRALIA)	The Cynics (Pittsburgh PA)	Dreamed (Chicago IL)	Hera (Reykjavik ICELAND)	Junior Senior (Copenhagen DENMARK)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Little Man (Minneapolis MN)
An Albatross (Philadelphia PA)	Cache Cache (Baltimore MD)	Cache Cache (Baltimore MD)	Daddy A Go-Go (Atlanta GA)	Driveblind (Aberdeen UK)	Hey Besala (Ciudad Juarez MEXICO)	Ram Herrera (San Antonio TX)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Little Man Tate (Sheffield UK)
ANAVAN (LA CA)	Calla (Brooklyn NY)	Calla (Brooklyn NY)	Daedelus (LA CA)	Drumcrops (Stow MA)	Hey Besala (Ciudad Juarez MEXICO)	Ari Hest (NY NY)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	The Little Ones (Silverlake CA)
Anberlin (Orlando FL)	Callisto (Turku FINLAND)	Call Me Lightning (Milwaukee NY)	Dan Deacon (Baltimore MD)	DSR Featuring Big Tuck & Tum Tum (Dallas TX)	High Class Elite (NY NY)	Hey Besala (Ciudad Juarez MEXICO)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Live Fast Die (NY NY)
Keren Ann (Paris)	Call Me Lightning (Milwaukee NY)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Danielia Cotton (New York NY)	Dujejos (NY NY)	Eric Hofbauer (Boston MA)	Taylor Hicks (Birmingham AL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lodger (Helsinki FINLAND)
Annuals (Raleigh NC)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Canseco (Tijuana MEXICO)	David Karsten Daniels (Chapel Hill NC)	Paul Duncan (Brooklyn NY)	Future Clouds And Radar (Austin)	High Class Elite (NY NY)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Loer Velocity (Yonkers NY)
A Northern Chorus (Hamilton ON)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	The Cape May (Calgary AB)	The Dansettes (NY NY)	Thomas Dybdahl (Stavanger NORWAY)	Future Of The Left (Cardiff UK)	The High Dials (Montreal QC)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lonely Lady (Manchester UK)
Antibalas (Brooklyn NY)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	The Capital Years (Philadelphia PA)	Dash Rip Rock (New Orleans LA)	The Dynasty Handbag (NY NY)	The Futurists (Atlanta GA)	Kathleen Grace Band (KGB) (LA CA)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lonely China Day (Beijing CHINA)
Antimic (LA CA)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Carbonas (Atlanta GA)	DATA ROCK (Bergen NORWAY)	Steve Earle (Schertz TX)	Galactic w/ Lyrics Born, Gift of Gab & Boots Riley (New Orleans LA)	Kava Kava (Huddersfield UK)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	The Lonely H (Seattle WA)
The Apes (Washington DC)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	The Caribbean (Washington DC)	The Danettes (NY NY)	Earl Greyhound (Brooklyn NY)	Gallows (London UK)	The KBC (Preston UK)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Loney, Dear (Stockholm SWEDEN)
Apollo Sunshine (Boston MA)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Carnival Beats (Austin)	David Karsten Daniels (Chapel Hill NC)	The Early Years (London UK)	David Garza (Austin)	Stephen Kellogg & The Sixers (Northampton MA)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Looker (NY NY)
Apostrophe of Hustle (Toronto ON)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Adam Carroll (Austin)	David Karsten Daniels (Chapel Hill NC)	Earthless (San Diego CA)	The Gaskets (Richmond VA)	KEENA (Virginia Beach VA)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lords (UK) (Nottingham UK)
The Apples in Stereo (Denver CO)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	Eastern Conference Champions (Bucks County PA)	Gasoline Cowboy (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Kid Kenda (San Francisco)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Lords (US) (Louisville KY)
Aqualung (South London UK)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Carter/Carther/Moore (Oakland/Carther)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	Ecstatic Sunshine (Baltimore MD)	Rebecca Gates (Brooklyn NY)	Kid Kenda (San Francisco)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Abandoned (LA CA)
Aqueduct (Seattle WA)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	Ana Egge (Austin)	Gator Main (Dallas TX)	Kid Kenda (San Francisco)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Burbanks (Seattle WA)
Arbouretum (Baltimore MD)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	E-K-U-K (Manhattan Beach CA)	David Garza (Austin)	Kid Kenda (San Francisco)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Lamarada (Monterrey MEXICO)
Iain Archer (Bangor UK)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	e! Axel (Oslo NORWAY)	The Gaskets (Richmond VA)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Architecture in Helsinki (Melbourne AUSTRALIA)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	Electric (Singapore SINGAPORE)	Gasoline Cowboy (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
The Ark (Malmo SWEDEN)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	The Electric Soft Parade (Brighton UK)	Rebecca Gates (Brooklyn NY)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Armor For Sleep (Newark NJ)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	Elemeno P (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Gator Main (Dallas TX)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Army of Me (Washington DC)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	Elevator Action (Charlotte NC)	David Garza (Austin)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Che Arthur (Austin)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	Eli Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	The Gaskets (Richmond VA)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Art in Manila (Omaha NE)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gasoline Cowboy (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Asakusa Jinta (Asakusa JAPAN)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Rebecca Gates (Brooklyn NY)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Asobi Seksu (Brooklyn NY)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gator Main (Dallas TX)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Asteroid #4 (Philadelphia PA)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	David Garza (Austin)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Astronautalis (Jacksonville FL)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	The Gaskets (Richmond VA)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Pete Astudillo (Laredo TX)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gasoline Cowboy (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
At All Cost (Austin)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Rebecca Gates (Brooklyn NY)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Nicole Atkins & the Sea (Neptune NJ)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gator Main (Dallas TX)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
A-Trak (Montreal QC)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	David Garza (Austin)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Attack Formation (Austin)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	The Gaskets (Richmond VA)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Attractive and Popular (Hot Springs National Park AR)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gasoline Cowboy (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Audrey Sessions (Livermore CA)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Rebecca Gates (Brooklyn NY)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Au Revoir Simone (Brooklyn NY)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gator Main (Dallas TX)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Austin TV (Mexico City MEXICO)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	David Garza (Austin)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
The Automatic (Cardiff UK)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	The Gaskets (Richmond VA)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Automusik (Austin)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gasoline Cowboy (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Awesome Cool Dudes (Austin)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Rebecca Gates (Brooklyn NY)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
The Awkward Stage (Vancouver BC)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gator Main (Dallas TX)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Kevin Ayers (London UK)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	David Garza (Austin)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Bad Back Door Slam (Isle of Man UK)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	The Gaskets (Richmond VA)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Badly Drawn Boy (Manchester UK)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gasoline Cowboy (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
The Bad Rackets (Austin)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Rebecca Gates (Brooklyn NY)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Bad Wizard (Brooklyn NY)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gator Main (Dallas TX)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Balkan Beat Box (Tel Aviv ISRAEL)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	David Garza (Austin)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
The Band of Heathens (Austin)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	The Gaskets (Richmond VA)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Bang Gang (Reykjavik ICELAND)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gasoline Cowboy (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Jill Barber (Halifax NS)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Rebecca Gates (Brooklyn NY)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Barbez (Brooklyn NY)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gator Main (Dallas TX)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Chente Barrera (Lasoya TX)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	David Garza (Austin)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Shane Bartell (Austin)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	The Gaskets (Richmond VA)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Bassnectar (San Francisco)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gasoline Cowboy (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Basswood Lane (Austin)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Rebecca Gates (Brooklyn NY)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Ceci Bastida (LA CA)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gator Main (Dallas TX)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Bat For Lashes (Brighton UK)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	David Garza (Austin)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Battle (London UK)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	The Gaskets (Richmond VA)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)
Bayside (Long Island NY)	Call Me Poupee (Montreal QC)	Car Stereo (Wars) (Austin)	Donnie Davies (Houston TX)	El Paperboy Reed & The True Loves (Boston MA)	Gasoline Cowboy (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)	Kid Sister (Chicago IL)	John Hammond (Jersey City NJ)	Los Stratjackets (Nashville TN)





LUCINDA WILLIAMS
West (Lost Highway)

A decade ago, no Lucinda Williams fan could have imagined that *West* would be her third album in six years. She was, after all, the poster girl for artists who took their sweet time but delivered stunning results. Here she's working through another difficult breakup in producer Hal Willner's softer hues of rainy-day jazz, muted R&B, and ethereal Americana, not the stinging blues and bizarre quasi-rap of 2003's *World Without Tears*. "Come On" simmers and seethes, poignant "Learning How to Live" carries a *Sweet Old World* chime, and "Wrap My Head Around That" builds to a frothy head of boho-blues as Williams criticizes some unfortunate cad's "little party favor." Elsewhere, *West* is just too musically placid or lyrically uninspired to elicit much passion from either the listener or, disappointingly, Williams herself. She's been down this gravel road before, and those car wheels sound precariously close to spinning in place.

★★★ — Christopher Gray

THE AUTUMN DEFENSE
(Broadmoor)

In 2001, Wilco's John Stirratt and Pat Sansone formed the Autumn Defense, a reverential nod to the bucolic sounds of the early Seventies that's become a full-on soft rock resurrection. The duo's third, eponymous LP is a vision of falling leaves and sun rays, decked out in woodwinds, percussion, and falsetto. Opener "Canyon Arrow" is a love letter framed with guiro scrapes and flute, while dissonant slow jam "Where You Are" is arguably the best use of triangle in recent years. Tracks like "Feel You Now" are made of the same yeast that Bread put in the oven decades ago. The best harmonies of the era shine through in "Criminal," and the hand-claps in closer "Simple Explanation" bring it on home. There's a musical landscape between Simon & Garfunkel and Devendra Banhart begging to be found in the here and now, and the Autumn Defense has settled in, sentimentality and all.

★★★ — Darcie Stevens



CLAP YOUR HANDS SAY YEAH
Some Loud Thunder

The success of Clap Your Hands Say Yeah's self-titled, self-released, and self-distributed 2005 debut album overshadowed the music itself as the album came to epitomize the power of industry buzz in the digital age. *Some Loud Thunder*, the long-awaited follow-up by the Philadelphia/Brooklyn-based quintet, struggles to overcome this hype but makes good overall. If anything, the title track is an attempt to debunk the band's own cultish status and to freak-out fair-weather fans as singer



★★★★★ Perfect ★★★★★ Great ★★★★★ Good ★★ Mediocre ★ Coaster



KRISTIN HERSH
Learn to Sing Like a Star (YepRoc)

Should we be surprised that after two decades of alternately raging and wailing, Kristin Hersh's voice sounds so dignified, so worn and torn, or that it serves her so well on her first solo album in four years? "Ask a question, you get an earful," she rasps amid clattering Nineties guitar fills and the push and pull of strings on opener "In Shock." Indeed. *Learn to Sing Like a Star* is the full Hersh experience, encompassing as it does all of her back-catalog iterations, from the knife-throwing thrills of the Throwing Muses' precise power pop to the cutting melancholia of her *Hips and Makers*-era balladry. With help from Dave Narcizo on drums and Martin and Kimberlee McCarrick on cello and violin, Hersh handles everything else. She's at the height of her considerable powers on "Winter," a sweeping bass-and-bells love song that manages to capture the crackle and hiss of "sand in naked flame," and on "Wild Vanilla," a discordant but catchy work somehow both vintage and original.

★★★★ — Shawn Badgley

Alec Ounsworth's slurred vocals are fed through an abrasive distortion device that peels the skin off your yellow country teeth. "Satan Said Dance" is a spastic and surprisingly enjoyable toe-tapper, while "Mama, Won't You Keep Them Castles in the Air and Burning?" layers off-kilter harmonies. "Yankee Go Home" hints at more grandiose ambitions, but this time around, no celebratory hand gestures are required.

★★★ — Austin Powell

CLINIC
Visitations (Domino)

There are some bands that can't be left to their own devices. Clinic's fourth album, *Visitations*, which the group self-recorded in Liverpool, is case and point. It sounds like the fourpiece, in an attempt to rehash the acid-trip aesthetics of 2001 debut *Internal Wrangler*, got blazed and expected the music to write itself. Overmedicated with pedals and effects — all filler, no killer — "Family" and "Gideon" follow kick-drum grooves, similar to the Black Angels, but fail to develop. "Jigsaw Man" and "The New Seeker" are equally puzzling. "Animal/Human" juxtaposes barbershop vocals with funky, Seventies porn music, but even that still sounds one-dimensional. "Children of Kellogg" manages to balance the abstract and concrete, beginning and ending with oddly compelling horn sections, while "Tusk," a fuzzed-out surf-punk tune, keeps things short and to the point. Don't bother calling for the medic, though. This one's DOA.

★ — Austin Powell



LIVE SHOT

BOB SEGER & THE SILVER BULLET BAND
American Airlines Center, Dallas, Feb. 8

Not that an arena brimming with duppies (old urban professionals) noticed or even cared, but Thin Lizzy's "The Boys Are Back in Town" as the Silver Bullet Band's entrance cue was a nice touch. An early-Seventies tour pitted both crews against one another every night at the afterparty, resulting in Lizzy's Phil Lynott adopting Bob Seger's "Rosalie" as his own. At 61, Seger returned the favor, Lynott's anthem to "them wild-eyed boys that had been away" priming the Dearborn, Mich., native's first tour in more than a decade. Besotted with a genuinely infectious bonhomie, Seger and company's



GARY MILLER

two-hour march through his catalog was an exercise in disbelief. If Seger didn't do "Rosalie," he didn't perform at least another hour of sure hits from his great American songbook, memorables like "You'll Accompany Me," "Still the Same," "Her Strut," "Like a Rock," and on and on. Fronting an eightpiece with the optional four-man horn section, grandpa Seger donned a headband after the photographers departed, pumped his fists without pause, and let loose a gravelly voice straight out of commercial radio's lost soul. Last year's rock-solid *Face the Promise* placed half its tracks (*) among Seger's old-time rock & rollers and never missed a beat, particularly thumpers "Wreck This Heart," "Face the Promise," and "Real Mean Bottle," an LP duet with Kid Rock but here featuring none other than Grand Funk Railroad/SBB drummer Don Brewer. With Seger at the piano, "We've Got Tonight" and then "Turn the Page" preceded their author wondering whether it really had been 32 years since *Live Bullet*, but "Travelin' Man" into "Beautiful Loser" rendered the point moot. Same for '68's "Ramblin' Gamblin' Man," not to mention "Katmandu" and "Horizontal Bop." When Seger sang the opening lines to "Night Moves" in the first encore ("I was a little too tall, coulda used a few pounds"), the reverse was actually true, but if "Rock & Roll Never Forgets," then Motor City's other assembly line of timelessness remains a most "Beautiful Loser."

— Raoul Hernandez

"Roll Me Away"
"Tryin' to Live My Life Without You"
"Wreck This Heart"*
"Down on Main Street"
"Old Time Rock & Roll"
"Wait for Me"*
"Face the Promise"*
"Sunspot Baby"
"Betty Lou's Getting Out Tonight"
"We've Got Tonight"
"Turn the Page"
"Travelin' Man"/"Beautiful Loser"
INTERMISSION
"Simplicity"*
"Ramblin' Gamblin' Man"
"C'est la Vie"
"Real Mean Bottle"*
"The Answer's in the Question"*
"Fire Down Below"
"Horizontal Bop"
"Katmandu"
ENCORE 1
"Night Moves"
"Hollywood Nights"
ENCORE 2
"Against the Wind"
"Rock & Roll Never Forgets"

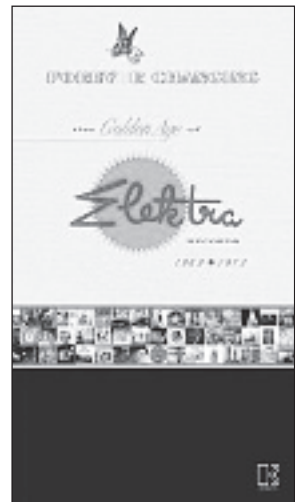
IN BOX

FOREVER CHANGING: THE GOLDEN AGE OF ELEKTRA RECORDS, 1963-1973
(Elektra/Rhino)

Whether you were there or missed it the first time around and want to hear what the big deal was, *Forever Changing* is as close as we're likely to get to the sound of the Sixties in the 21st century. The dates don't match, but the cultural explosion was so extensive it couldn't be contained by the calendar, and here is audible proof. Ostensibly a tribute to Jac Holzman, Elektra Records founder in 1950 and president until 1973, this 5-CD box set fascinates with its breadth and depth. At 117 tracks, more than half never before on CD, *Forever Changing* reflects the multifaceted sounds made by some of the most exceptional musicians of the day. Label mainstays Judy Collins, the Doors, Love, and Phil Ochs are well represented, while obscurities like Simon Stokes & the Nighthawks, Dick Rosmini, and Hamid Hamilton Camp appear next to success stories Carly Simon, Harry Chapin, and Bread. Debut recordings from the Stooges, MC5, and Queen are joined by rarities from the Beefeaters (later the Byrds), Stalk-Forrest Group (who became Blue Öyster Cult), and Eric Clapton & the Powerhouse as well as eccentricities like Nico, the Holy Modal Rounders, and David Peel & the Lower East Side. The set's book focuses on the songs and the artists, giving a perspective that shouldn't be unexpected. Among its allegories, *Forever Changing*, a titular play on Love's masterpiece, summarizes the rise of one of the first independent recording companies, run by an executive with a taste for folk music and audio engineering, into a music industry force that's astounding once detailed. For hardcores, there's also a \$200 special edition in a 12-inch-by-12-inch box with a hardbound book and extras including a CD-ROM of Holzman's book, *Follow the Music*. That's no "Little Red Book."

★★★★★

— Jim Caligiuri



Carolyn Mark (Victoria BC)
Marked Men (Denton TX)
Josh Martinez (Vancouver BC)
Willy Mason (Marthas Vineyard)
Masta Killa (Brooklyn NY)
Mastodon (Atlanta GA)
Matt & Kim (Brooklyn NY)
Scott Matthews
(Wolverhampton UK)
Mau Mau Chaplains (Austin)
Melissa McClelland (Toronto BC)
MC Fata! (Austin)
Eugene McGuinness (Liverpool)
Mark McGuinn (Nashville TN)
Nellie McKay (NY NY)
Ian McLagan (Austin)
Jon McLaughlin (Anderson IN)
Shawn David McMillen (Austin)
Meat Puppets (Austin)
Medicine Fuck Dream (Oakland)
Walter Meegeo (Chicago IL)
Melee (Orange CA)
The Melismatics (Minneapolis)
Menomena (Portland OR)
Menwhopause (New Delhi INDIA)
Meriwether (Baton Rouge LA)
Messiah J & The Expert (Dublin IRELAND)
Metalchicks (Tokyo JAPAN)
Metricron (London UK)
Metro Rhyth (London UK)
Mew (Copenhagen DENMARK)
Mexican Institute of Sound (MIS)
(Mexico City MEXICO)
Mezklah (LA CA)
Michael Zapudner's Rain Of Frogs
(Oakland CA)
Michelle Shocked (LA CA)
Midlake (Denton TX)
Midnight Movies (LA CA)
Midnite Snake (Pittsburgh PA)
Mika (London UK)
Mika Miiko (LA CA)
Lynn Miles (Ottawa ON)
Amy Millan (Toronto ON)
Chris Mills (NY NY)
Minipopp (San Francisco)
Ruth Minnikin (Halifax NS)
MINSK (Chicago/Peoria IL)
The Mint Chicks (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)
Miracle Fortress (Montreal QC)
Misfats (Portland OR)
Mistress StephanieAnd Her Melodic Cat (Austin)
Anais Mitchell (Montpellier VT)
Mittens on Strings (Chicago IL)
The Moaners (Chapel Hill NC)
Mobile (Montreal QC)
Mogwai (Glasgow UK)
Mohair (Watford UK)
The Mohawk Lodge (Vancouver)
moi Caprice (Copenhagen DENMARK)
Monahans (Austin)
The Monas (Miami FL)
Money Mark (LA CA)
Money Waters (Dallas TX)
Monotonix (Tel Aviv ISRAEL)
Monotract (Brooklyn NY)
Monsters Are Waiting
(Eagle Rock CA)
Stefani Montiel (San Antonio TX)
Monty Are I (Providence RI)
The Moog (Budapest HUNGARY)
The Mooney Suzuki (NY NY)
Moonlighting Towers (Austin)
Ian Moore (Seattle WA)
Shannon Moore (LA CA)
Thurston Moore (Northampton MA)
Moros Eros (Atlanta GA)
James Morrison (London UK)
Mor Ve Otesi (Istanbul TURKEY)
mothercoat (Tokyo JAPAN)
Mother Mother (Vancouver BC)
The Mother Truckers (Austin)
Bob Mould (Washington DC)
The Mountain Goats
(Chapel Hill NC)
Mr. Pookie & Mr. Luuci (Dallas TX)
The M's (Chicago IL)
MSTRKRFT (Toronto ON)
Muck and the Mires (Boston MA)
Muddy World (Tokyo JAPAN)
Krista L. L. Muir (Montreal QC)
The Mullens (Dallas TX)
Mumm-r (Bexhill UK)
Alexi Murdoch (London UK)
MuteMath (New Orleans LA)
MV/EE and The Bummer Road
(Guilford VT)
MxPx (Bremerham WA)

My Brightest Diamond (Brooklyn)
my!gag/husband! (Vancouver BC)
My Latest Novel (Glasgow UK)
My Second Surprise (Tel Aviv ISRAEL)
Marissa Nadler (Providence RI)
Johnette Napolitano
(Joshua Tree CA)
The Narrator (Chicago IL)
Nina Nastasia & Jim White (NY NY)
Nathan (Winnipeg MB)
Navruz (Tashkent UZBEKISTAN)
Nayrok (Dallas TX)
Necropolis (Columbus OH)
The Needles (Aberdeen UK)
Ian Negmaron (Austin)
Nekomushi (Hiroshima JAPAN)
Nervous Hospital (Austin)
Nethers (Washington DC)
Cyril Neville & Tribe 13 (Austin)
New London Fire (Oakland NJ)
The New Fresh (Baltimore MD)
New Violators (Trondheim NORWAY)
The Nice Boys (Portland OR)
Night of Pleasure (Columbus OH)
The Nightwatchman (LA CA)
1986 (Austin)
The 1900s (Chicago IL)
No Age (LA CA)
Scott Nolan (Winnipeg MB)
NOMO (Ann Arbor MI)
Nothington (San Francisco)
Novillero (Winnipeg MB)
NOXAGT (Iono NORWAY)
Nuclear Family (Brooklyn NY)
Nudo de Espejos (Lima PERU)
Gary P. Nunn (Marble Falls TX)
Paolo Nutini (Paisley UK)
Oakley Hall (Brooklyn NY)
The Octopus Project (Austin)
Oddisee (Philly PA)
Odd Nosadam (Oakland CA)
O'Death (Brooklyn NY)
OFFICE (Chicago IL)
Of Mexican Descent (LA CA)
Oh No! Oh My! (Austin)
Okkervil River (Austin)
Ola Podrida (Brooklyn NY)
The Old Soul (Toronto ON)
Old Time Relijun (Portland OR)
David Olney (Nashville TN)
Fionn O Lochlainn (London UK)
120 Days (Kristiansund NORWAY)
One Mississippi (Austin)
One Umbrella (Austin)
Onion Creek Crawdaddies (Austin)
The Oohlas (LA CA)
Oppenheimer (Belfast IRELAND)
Oreskaband (Osaka JAPAN)
Patton Oswalt (NY NY)
Ours (NY NY)
Outformation (Atlanta GA)
owkmj (Tokyo JAPAN)
Ox (Canada) (Vancouver BC)
Oxbow (San Francisco)
Oxford Collapse (Brooklyn NY)
Ozomatli (LA CA)
Rico Pabon (Richmond CA)
The Pack (San Francisco)
Monsters Are Waiting
Page France (Baltimore MD)
Pagoda (NY NY)
Palaxy Tracks (Austin)
Palm School Choir (Austin)
Pamela Des Barres
(Sherman Oaks CA)
Panda (Monterrey MEXICO)
Panda & Angel (Seattle WA)
The Panda Band (Perth AUSTRALIA)
The Pandas (Las Vegas NV)
Panthers (Brooklyn NY)
Papa Mail (Austin)
Paper Moon (Winnipeg MB)
Paris Motel (London UK)
Graham Parker (Boiceville NY)
The Parlor Mob (Red Bank NJ)
Pattern is Movement
(Philadelphia PA)
Bobby Patterson (Dallas TX)
Patty Hurst Shifter (Raleigh NC)
PatuA; Tronxo (São Paulo BRAZIL)
Paul Collins Beat (NY NY)
Pawa Up First (Montreal QC)
The Paybacks (Detroit MI)
Peaches (Berlin GERMANY)
Peekaboo Theory (Houston TX)
Peel (Austin)
Peelander-Z (NY NY)
Pela (Brooklyn NY)
Pelican (Chicago IL)
Joep Pelt (Amsterdam)

Jack Penate (London UK)
Jay Perez (San Antonio TX)
Elvis Perkins (Providence RI)
Persephone's Bees (Oakland CA)
Pete and the Pirates (Reading UK)
Peter and the Wolf (TX) (Austin)
Peter, Bjorn and John (Stockholm)
The Phantom Family Halo
(Louisville KY)
Grant -Lee Phillips (LA CA)
Photograph (NY NY)
The Photo Atlas (Denver CO)
Picastro (Toronto ON)
Luke Pickett (London UK)
Adrienne Pierce (Vancouver BC)
The Pierces (NY NY)
The Pigeon Detectives (Leeds UK)
Pigeon John (LA CA)
Patrice Pike (Austin)
The Pines (Minneapolis MN)
Ariel Pink (LA CA)
The Pinker Tones (Barcelona SPAIN)
Pink Nasty (Wichita KS)
Pink Reason (Green Bay WI)
The Pipettes (Brighton UK)
Pistol Valve (Tokyo JAPAN)
Plan B (London UK)
Plaster (Montreal QC)
Play-N-Skillz (Dallas TX)
± (Plus/Minus) (Brooklyn NY)
Poison Idea (Portland OR)
Emma Pollock (Glasgow UK)
Steve Poltz (San Diego CA)
The Polyphonic Spree (Dallas TX)
Pompeii (Austin)
The Poppies (Chicago IL)
Ponytail (Baltimore MD)
Pony Up (Montreal QC)
Pop Levi (LA CA)
Poppu (Glasgow UK)
The Postmasks (Miami FL)
Grace Potter and the Nocturnals
(Waitsfield VT)
Power Pill Fist (Pittsburgh PA)
PowerSolo (Arhus DENMARK)
PPT (Dallas TX)
Prada Killers (Morris Plains NJ)
Praise the Twilight Sparrow
(Amsterdam)
Andy Pratt (Amesbury MA)
The Presets (Sydney AUSTRALIA)
The Presidents of the United
States of America (Seattle WA)
Price (Miami FL)
Priestess (Montreal QC)
Prisonshake (St Louis MO)
The Procession (Detroit MI)
Prosser (Seattle WA)
Protokoll (Boston MA)
Prototypes (Paris)
Psychedelic Horseshit
(Columbus OH)
The Psychic Paramount (NY NY)
Public Offenders (Austin)
Puppetmastaz (Berlin GERMANY)
Joe Purdy (LA CA)
Purple Crush (Brooklyn NY)
Pusher (Louisville KY)
Josh Pyke (Sydney AUSTRALIA)
Quah (Chicago IL)
Quetzal (LA CA)
Quien es, BOOM! (Austin)
Qui w! David Yow (LA CA)
The Race (Chicago IL)
Radiant (Dallas TX)
Rafter and Friends (San Diego CA)
Kristoffer Ragnstam (Gothenburg SWEDEN)
Rahim (NY NY)
Raising The Fawn (Toronto ON)
John Ralston (Lake Worth FL)
Ruben Ramos (Austin)
Rapid Ric & DJ Chill (Houston/
Austin)
Rapid Ric's Whut it Dew Family
feat. Magno, Chalie Boy, Bavu
Blakes, Black Mike, Gerald G,
Rob da Ryno (Austin, Houston)
Ra Ra Riot (Syracuse NY)
R.A. The Rugged Man (Long
Island NY)
Raunch Hands ' Bigg Topp (Austin)
Razorright (London UK)
Real Ones (Bergen NORWAY)
Jay Reatard (Memphis TN)
Rebuilding the Rights of Statues
(Beijing CHINA)
Redbeards (New Orleans LA)
The Red Stick Ramblers
(Laffayette LA)
The Redwalls (Chicago IL)

Fionn Regan (Dublin IRELAND)
Terry Reid (Palm Desert CA)
Reigning Sound (Asheville NC)
Relay (Philadelphia PA)
Herb Remington (South Bend IN)
The Reverend Peyton's Big Damn
Band (Eggleston IN)
Reykjavik! (Reykjavik ICELAND)
Lou Rhodes (Bath UK)
Gruff Rhys (Cardiff UK)
Richard Earl (Beaumont TX)
Rickie Lee Jones (Chicago IL)
River City Rapists (Austin)
River City Tanlines (Memphis TN)
Rj2d (Philadelphia PA)
Roadsaw (Boston MA)
Robbers on High Street
(Poughkeepsie NY)
Charlie Robison (Bandera TX)
Rocket Summer (Ft Worth TX)
Rocket Four (Tel Aviv ISRAEL)
Ariel Pink (LA CA)
The Pinker Tones (Barcelona SPAIN)
Carmen Rodgers & Geno Young
(Dallas TX)
Rodrigo y Gabriela (Terra Acida MEXICO)
Carrie Rodriguez (Austin)
Dex Romweber Duo
(Chapel Hill NC)
Roommate (Chicago IL)
The Rosebuds (Raleigh NC)
Roxxy Cottontail (NY NY)
The Rub (NY NY)
Rubicks (London UK)
Rubik (Helsinki FINLAND)
The Rumble Strips (Devon UK)
Bic Runga (Auckland NEW ZEALAND)
Russian Circles (Chicago IL)
Rusted Shut (Houston TX)
Justin Rutledge (Toronto ON)
RWAKE (Little Rock AR)
Serena Ryder (Peterborough ON)
Sage Francis (Providence RI)
Sahara Hotnights (Stockholm SWEDEN)
Shawn Sahm and the Tex-Mex
Experience (San Antonio TX)
The Saints (Australia AUSTRALIA)
St Vincent (Dallas TX)
Mingo Saldivar (San Antonio TX)
Samamidon (NY NY)
The Sammies (Charlotte NC)
Sam the Sham (Memphis TN)
San Saba County (Austin)
Sasquatch (LA CA)
Satellite Party (LA CA)
The Saturday Knights (Seattle WA)
Saturday Looks Good To Me
(Portland OR)
Danny Saul (Manchester UK)
Say Hi To Your Mom (Brooklyn NY)
Scanners (Milwaukee WI)
Scanners (London UK)
Danny Schmidt (Austin)
John Schooley and his One Man
Band (Austin)
Scissors for Lefty (San Francisco)
Christian Scott (NY NY)
Secondhand Serenade
(Menlo Park CA)
Second Movement (NY NY)
Seoul Electric Band (Seoul KOREA)
The Servant (London UK)
The Service Industry (Austin)
7 Shot Screamers (St Louis MO)
Ron Sexsmith (Toronto ON)
Charlie Sexton (Austin)
Shapes and Sizes (Montreal QC)
Ray Sharpe (Dallas TX)
Shearwater (Austin)
Shedding (Louisville KY)
Matt Sheehy (Portland OR)
Duncan Sheik (NY NY)
Shellshag (Brooklyn NY)
Lauren Shera (Santa Cruz CA)
Robert Shields (Dumfries UK)
Shitdisco (Glasgow UK)
Shot x Shot (Philadelphia PA)
Shout Out Out Out Out
(Edmonton AB)
Michael Showalter (Brooklyn NY)
The Shys (Orange County CA)
The Sights (Detroit MI)
Signal To Noise (Denver CO)
Silver Daggers (LA CA)
Simian Mobile Disco (London UK)
Simon Dawes (LA CA)
Alina Simone (Carboro NC)
Simple Kid (London UK)
Single Frame (Austin)

The Sippy Cups (San Francisco)
Sissy Wish (Bergen NORWAY)
Sister Flo (Riihimaki FINLAND)
SixNationState (Reading UK)
Six Parts Seven (Kent OH)
65daysofstatic (Sheffield UK)
Skatch Bastid (Montreal QC)
Skye (London UK)
Slaffaffenland (Copenhagen DENMARK)
The Slats (Minneapolis MN)
Sloan (Toronto ON)
Slot (Detroit MI)
Slough Feg (San Francisco)
Slug of Atmosphere (Minneapolis)
Small Sins (Toronto ON)
The Small Stars (Austin)
Smalltown DJs (Calgary AB)
Smallwhitelight (Brighton UK)
Alice Smith (Brooklyn NY)
Drew Smith and His Band (Austin)
Chris Smither (Boston MA)
Sahara Smith (Austin)
Smoking Popes (Chicago IL)
Smut Peddlers (Redondo Beach)
Snowden (Atlanta GA)
Social Code (Edmonton AB)
Softlightes (San Diego CA)
Sole (Flagstaff AZ)
Someones Still Loves You Boris
Yeltsin (Springfield MO)
So So Modern (Wellington NEW ZEALAND)
Soulico (Tel Aviv ISRAEL)
The Soul Of John Black (LA CA)
Sound Team (Austin)
South Austin Jug Band (Austin)
Southern Intellect (Houston TX)
Soweto Kinch (Birmingham UK)
Spark Dawg (Killeen TX)
Sparkle Motion (Austin)
Spectrum (London UK)
The Spider Bags (Chapel Hill NC)
Spigga (LA CA)
The Spill Canvas (Sioux Falls SD)
Spod (Sydney AUSTRALIA)
Spoon (Austin)
The Spores (Silverlake CA)
The Spunks (New York JAPAN)
MS (Detroit MI)
Leeroy Stagger (Lethbridge AB)
Stardeath And White Dwarfs
(Oklahoma City OK)
Starky (Sydney AUSTRALIA)
Starsailor (James Walsh Solo)
(Manchester UK)
Stars Of Track And Field (Portland)
Steaming Wolf Penis (Seattle WA)
Marnie Stern (NY NY)
The Stems (Boston MA)
Stinking Lizaveta (Philadelphia)
The Stitches (Orange County CA)
Powell St. John (Austin)
Stolen Babies (LA CA)
Samantha Stollenwerck
(San Francisco)
The Stooges (Detroit MI)
Storyhill (St Paul MN)
The Storgs (Swansea UK)
The Strange Boys (Dallas TX)
Straylight Run (Long Island NY)
Street To Nowhere (Oakland CA)
Studentom Project (Houston TX)
Stylofone (Brooklyn NY)
The Subjects (NY NY)
Suishou no Fune (Tokyo JAPAN)
The Summer Wardrobe (Austin)
Sunburned Hand Of The Man
(Boston MA)
The Sundresses (Cincinnati OH)
Sunshiners (Paris)
The Sunshine Underground
(Leeds UK)
Sunwrae (Melbourne AUSTRALIA)
Supagroup (New Orleans LA)
Super Creep (LA CA)
Astrid Swan (Helsinki FINLAND)
Swan Island (Portland OR)
The Sway Machinery (Brooklyn)
Sunny Sweeney (Austin)
Richard Swift (Portland OR)
Sybys (Chicago IL)
Jesse Sykes & The Sweet Hereafter
(Seattle WA)
Takka Takka (Brooklyn NY)
Tall Firs (NY NY)
Tally Hall (Ann Arbor MI)
The Teeth (Philadelphia PA)
Teeth of the Hydra (Columbus OH)
Willie Tee (New Orleans LA)
Teitur (Faroe Islands DENMARK)
Telephone Jim Jusus (Oakland CA)

Martha Wainwright (NY NY)
The Waiting Hurt (Barstow CA)
Wale (Washington DC)
Peter Walker (CA) (LA CA)
Peter Walker (NY) (Woodstock NY)
Seth Walker (Austin)
The Walkmens (Washington DC)
Kate Walsh (Brighton UK)
Warmer Milks (Kentuckyville KY)
Jeremy Wamsley (London UK)
Washington Social Club
(Washington DC)
Sara Wasseman (NY NY)
Waterloo (St Louis MO)
Wativ (New Orleans LA)
Patrick Watson (Montreal QC)
The Watson Twins (LA CA)
John Watts (Hove UK)
Wax Fang (Louisville KY)
Waxplanet (Manchester UK)
The Waybacks (San Francisco)
We Are the Fury (Toledo OH)
We Are Wolves (Montreal QC)
Weatherbox (San Diego CA)
Levi Weaver (Birmingham UK)
Weedeater (Wilmington NC)
The Weirid Weeds (Austin)
May Weiss (NY NY)
West Indian Girl (LA CA)
We Will Fall
What Made Milwaukee Famous
(Austin)
When Dinosaurs Ruled The Earth
(Austin)
The Whigs (Athens GA)
White Barons (San Francisco)
White Christian Romance
(Brooklyn NY)
White Denim (Austin)
White Ghost Shivers (Austin)
White Mice (Providence RI)
White Rabbits (Brooklyn NY)
Ralph White (Austin)
Who's Your Favorite Son, God?
(Sacramento CA)
Wibutee (Oslo NORWAY)
The Wild Erics (Cape Town SOUTH AFRICA)
The Wildhearts (Newcastle UK)
Wiley and the Checkmates
(Oxford MS)
Nathan Wiley (Summerside PEI)
White Williams (San Francisco)

Kelly Willis (Austin)
Willowz (LA CA)
Abram Wilson (London UK)
Windom Earle (Halifax NS)
Amy Winehouse (London UK)
WinterKids (Peaslake UK)
Winterpills (Northampton MA)
Wintersleep (Halifax NS)
Andrew Winton Duo (Perth AUSTRALIA)
The Woggles (Atlanta GA)
Wolf & Cub (Adelaide AUSTRALIA)
The WOMBATS (Liverpool UK)
Carolyn Wonderland (Austin)
Wooden Shjips (San Francisco)
Charles Wright and the 103
(LA CA)
The Wrights (Nashville TN)
WZT Hearts (Baltimore MD)
xerox teens (London UK)
X-Wife (Porto PORTUGAL)
YACHT (Portland OR)
YB (Seoul KOREA)
Yeasayer (NY NY)
Yip-Yip (Orlando FL)
The Yoko Casionos
(Vancouver BC)
Yolz in the Sky (Osaka JAPAN)
Yo Majesty (Tampa FL)
You Am I (Sydney AUSTRALIA)
Young Galaxy (Montreal QC)
The Young Knives (Oxford UK)
Young Love (Austin)
Roger Dean Young & the Tin Cup
(Vancouver BC)
Young Widows (Louisville KY)
You Should Go Ahead
(Lisbon PORTUGAL)
Youth Brigade (Venice CA)
Youth Group (AUSTRALIA)
Yuppie Pricks (Austin)
The Zebras (Brisbane AUSTRALIA)
The Zico Chain (London UK)
The Zincs (Chicago IL)
Zoe (Mexico City MEXICO)
Zoroaster (Atlanta GA)
Zykos (Austin)
zzz (Amsterdam)

SXSW 2007 MUSIC WRISTBAND INFORMATION

SXSW has set three goals to make things easier for Austin music consumers.

1) Avoid having people need to line up overnight to purchase wristbands. 2) Thwart the scalpers who buy and sell wristbands at double the price. 3) Make sure that the majority of wristbands sold go to local Austinites who support the Austin clubs the other 51 weeks a year.

For these reasons, SXSW WILL NOT ANNOUNCE in ADVANCE the date and location that wristbands will go on sale.

The announcement of when and where wristbands will go on sale will be made by text message to the SXSW SMS list. (details below) right before wristbands go on sale.

Additionally, at about the time wristbands go on sale, the information will be posted on austinchronicle.com and announced on KLBJ/KGSR/101X.

The first 2000 wristbands will be sold at last year's lowest price (\$130) and only sold to people with proof of an Austin address. Texas Driver's Licenses, UT IDs, utility bills, or car insurance certificates matching a photo ID will be accepted. (maximum two per person; cash or credit card only)

When the first 2000 \$130 wristbands sell out, the price for the next 2000 will change to \$160. These will not require proof of residency. (maximum two per person; cash or credit card only)

TO SIGN UP FOR SMS MESSAGES, use your mobile phone to send a text-message to 56658 with 'sx add' as the message. SXSW will send (512) mobile numbers a text alert when wristband go on sale. There is no extra charge for this service; normal text-messaging rates apply. Check sxsw.com for more info on SMS.

Please don't call SXSW, the Austin Chronicle, the local radio stations, or Waterloo Records to ask when wristbands will go on sale. **SXSW will not put wristbands on sale the same dates as they went on sale last year, but they will go on sale before the end of February.**

After the initial 4000 are sold, if additional wristbands can be put on sale, they will be priced at \$175 and available during the week of SXSW Music.

If you are unable to purchase a wristband, **please be aware that most SXSW shows have a limited number of single admissions sold each night** when doors open. SXSW will also present **three nights of free concerts** on Auditorium Shores.

All prices include tax and all service/credit card charges. Wristbands will be sold only in Austin, on a walk-up basis as long as they last, and they cannot be reserved in advance or purchased over the phone.

Wristbands guarantee that you won't have to pay cover charges at SXSW venues. They don't guarantee entry into sold-out venues, nor do they provide entry for minors into clubs that don't admit minors. SXSW Badges receive priority entry before SXSW wristbands.

CAN'T POSSIBLY BE TRUE

• We License Fishing, But We Can't License Parenting? 1) Shawn Mohan, 20, was arrested in January for shooting his infant son several times with a BB gun. Mohan said it was an accident, but the St. Charles County, Mo., sheriff pointed to similar bruises on the baby's face, left arm, hand, foot, hip, and buttocks and said Mohan was on probation for an earlier child-endangerment conviction. 2) Samaritans stopped on Interstate 465 in Indianapolis in December to help a wandering 3-year-old boy wearing only a diaper and T-shirt. Police tracked down his mother, Nancy Dyer, in her filthy apartment, where her 2-year-old daughter was eating spaghetti off the floor. Dyer's first reaction to news about her son: "Oh, he got out again."

• For two months late last year after a pair of convicted murderers escaped from Sudbury prison in England, the local Derbyshire police refused to release their pictures. According to the police, "Photographs of named people that are in police possession are classed as data, and their release is restricted by law" to instances where there is a "proper policing purpose." Derbyshire authorities said that since the escapees had probably left the area, there was no such purpose, and the photographs should be kept confidential.

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

• Easy Collars: 1) Nicholas Raber, 19, was arrested in Annapolis, Md., in December for punching a police officer and dashing up a flight of stairs after yelling, "You'll never catch me." The officers were aware that upstairs exits were locked and so waited patiently for Raber to come back down and be handcuffed. 2) Mitchell Sigman, 22, was arrested and charged with robbing the Village Pantry in Elkhart, Ind., in November, after the clerk-victim identified him as a regular customer and one who had recently filled out an application to work there.

• Failures to Keep a Low Profile: 1) College student Cory Shapiro, 19, was arrested in January after he flagged down a police officer to complain that he had been overcharged for drinks at the Athens, Ga., bar Bourbon Street. 2) Sunday school teacher Edgar Selavka, 49, was arrested after he reported to police in Northampton, Mass., in January that someone had stolen his backpack from church; shortly afterward, police found the backpack in a nearby restroom, with its contents on the floor, including at least 11 child pornography photos.

NEW WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



Jennalee Ryan of San Antonio last year began selling choice human embryos, ready for prospective mothers to implant after having chosen from Ryan's catalog describing the contributors' education, attractiveness, and medical history. "We're just trying to help people have babies," she told *The Washington Post* in January, and at less cost than full in vitro procedures (since she has eliminated the risk of failed fertilizations). But, said a bioethicist, "It's like you're ordering a computer from Dell." (Ryan said she does not take custom orders.) Of her emphasis on well-educated, good-looking contributors of sperm and eggs, she said, "Who wants an ugly, stupid kid?"

CHUTZPAH!

After Emmalee Bauer, 25, was fired by the Sheraton hotel company in late 2006, she sought unemployment compensation from the Iowa agency that offers benefits to employees terminated through no fault of their own. However, the judge noted that Bauer had written a 300-page journal, during office hours, chronicling her efforts to avoid work. Among her entries: "This typing thing seems to be doing the trick. It just looks like I am hard at work on something very important," and, "Once lunch is over, I will come right back to writing to piddle away the rest of the afternoon," and, "Accomplishment is overrated, anyway." (Her claim was denied.)

UNCLEAR ON THE CONCEPT

The school system in Hagerstown, Md., issued a written reprimand in December to the parents of a 5-year-old kindergarten boy who had pinched a classmate's buttocks, terming his behavior "sexual" harassment. Said his dad: "He knows nothing about sex. There's no way to explain [to him] what he's been written up for." Also in December, the principal of a preschool in Bellmead, Texas, issued an in-school suspension to a 4-year-old boy after he hugged his female teacher's aide with his face in her chest, which was termed "sexual contact and/or sexual harassment" (though following complaints, the offense was changed to "inappropriate physical behavior").

THE CONTINUING CRISIS

• Daring young men use the danger of moving cars for attention, especially if there's a video camera rolling. An 18-year-old Topeka, Kan., man became the latest Jackass-imitating casualty when he bailed out of a car going 35 mph in October and suffered a serious head injury. Other video performers go "ghost riding the whip" (letting their cars coast in neutral while they climb onto the roof to dance), with at least two deaths reported. In the newest craze, Jonathas Mendonca, 22, was hospitalized in critical condition in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in January after "skiing" (holding onto the back of a car) on Interstate 95 at 65 mph.

• In September, according to sheriff's officials in Buffalo, N.Y., Thomas Montgomery murdered a 22-year-old workplace colleague in a love triangle involving a West Virginia woman, except that two of the three triangle characters were nonexistent. Montgomery, 47, was pretending to be a young Marine in online conversation with the woman, 45, who was pretending she was her 18-year-old daughter. The murder victim had also struck up an online conversation with the woman, apparently making Montgomery jealous, but the victim, ironically, was the only one in the triangle who wasn't someone else.

• In January, a hospice in Britain run by Sister Frances Dominica approved the wish of a 22-year-old man (born with Duchenne muscular dystrophy), who wanted to lose his virginity before he died. The Douglas House hospice arranged for a prostitute to visit him at his family's home, and the man said afterward, "It was not emotionally fulfilling, but the lady was very pleasant."

THE DISTRICT OF CALAMITY

The Washington Post, examining 135 cases of disability by "stress" among Washington, D.C., police officers, found only 16 that resulted from specific incidents, such as gunfire, with the rest due to "common workplace tensions" ("arguments with colleagues, shift changes, disciplinary actions" among them). According to an internal police memo, the department's generous disability benefit would be "unheard of in private industry and public service," and the department's rate of officers unable to work is, for example, several times higher than Baltimore's, according to the *Post*'s October report.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at newsftheweird.blogspot.com (or www.newsoftheweird.com). Send your Weird News to:

Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737,

Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com.

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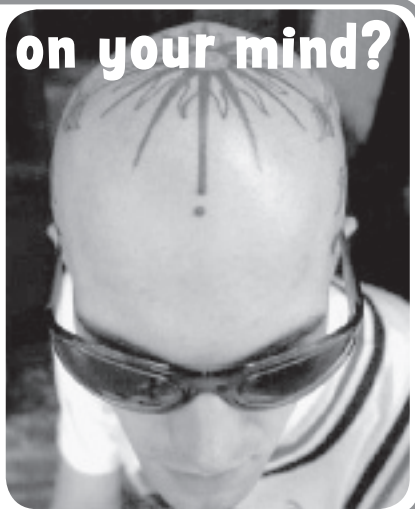
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CHRONtourage



Thursday, Feb. 15, 5pm

KGSR welcomes... Ruthie Foster instore

Refreshments provided by the St. Arnold Brewing Co.
See Ruthie live - Thurs., Feb. 15 at Antone's!
Waterloo Records, 600-A N. Lamar,
www.waterloorecords.com



Friday, Feb. 16, 8pm

BigHead Todd

With Reckless Kelly

Tickets are available at all Gettix outlets, including Waterloo Records, UT CO-OP and RunTex locations. Charge by phone at 866-I-GET-TIX or online at www.lazonarosa.com.

La Zona Rosa, 612 W. Fourth, www.lazonarosa.com



Friday, Feb. 16, 8pm

OF Montreal

Emo's, 603 Red River, www.emosaustin.com



Saturday, Feb. 17, 8pm

Patrice Pike

Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, www.anton.es.net



Wednesday, Feb. 21, 8pm

Red Sparrowes

Emo's, www.emosaustin.com, 603 Red River



Make sure to sign up for the weekly Chronotourage newsletter @ austinchronicle.com/party to find out about more upcoming events and ongoing contests! Meet the new spring Chronotourage at austinchronicle.com/chronotourage/meet.html.

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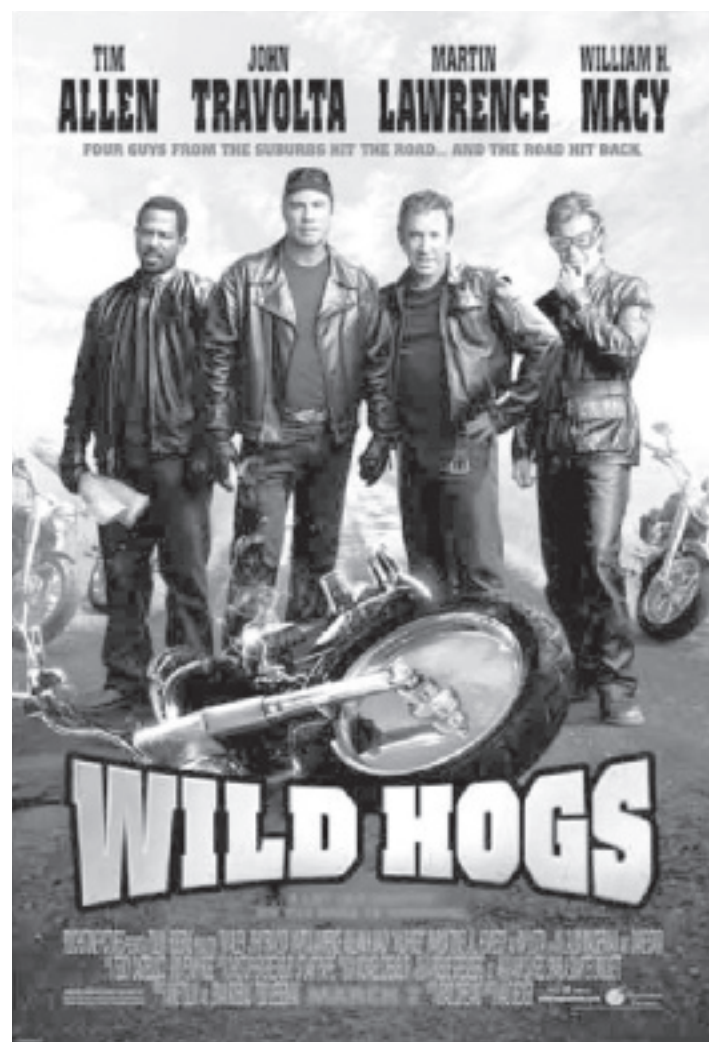
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Special ADVANCE Screening Thursday, March 1, 7:30pm

To sign up for a chance to win a
pass to this screening, go to
austinchronicle.com/contests by
4pm, Tuesday, February 20.

No purchase necessary. Passes are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Seating is limited. Passes do not guarantee admission.



Opens Nationwide Friday, March 2.

CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com

austinchronicle.com/contests

calendar

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15 - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

C COMMUNITY p.72 + **a** RTS p.78 + **t** ILM p.84 + **m**USIC listings p.96

this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM **ARTS**, **FILM**, AND **MUSIC**) BY NORA ANKRUM

Thursday 15

A WEDDING SHOWCASE Calling all brides and grooms to be: It's your chance to meet a slew of local wedding professionals all in one place and tour Laguna Gloria's historic grounds and villa all dolled up like the wedding of your dreamiest dreams. 6:30-9pm. AMOA-Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191. Free. www.amoa.org.

ART FIX: PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP The Michener-birthday celebration continues with a workshop led by playwright **C. Denby Swenson** on translating works of art into narrative dramas. 6pm. Blanton Museum of Art, MLK & Congress, 471-7324. Free, with admission. www.blantonmuseum.org.

AUSTIN CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MONTHLY MEETING 7:30pm. Austin Area Garden Center, 2220 Barton Springs Rd. (in Zilker Botanical Gardens). Free. www.austincss.com.

★ DO A GOOD DEED; HAVE A GOOD TIME Part of the proceeds from this **South African wine-tasting** will go to **WorldCamps**, which runs fun, educational camps for South African children affected by HIV/AIDS. **Abi Tapia** will perform. 5-8pm. Cork & Co., 308 Congress, 474-2675. \$10.

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF TEXAS See photographer Steve Schwartzman's latest photos of plants and wildlife native to Central Texas. 7-9pm. Wild Basin Wilderness meeting room, 805 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 472-1062. Free. www.npsot.org/Austin.

SHAMANIC SOUND HEALING GROUP FOR WOMEN Musician and shamanic practitioner Jodi Roberts plays Tibetan bowls for this monthly sound-healing session. *Third Thursdays*, 7-9pm. 11005 Callanish Park Dr., 788-1236. \$20. www.sacredinspiration.com.

★ STUDENT & COMMUNITY ART AUCTION & BOOK FAIR boasts sculpture, photography, jewelry, and other works from some of Austin's finest artists, along with student artwork, all for sale to benefit **Zilker Elementary's Arts in Education program**. And you can help boost Zilker's **library collection** as well by shopping at tonight's book fair. 5-8pm. Zilker Elementary School, 1900 Bluebonnet, 414-2317.

DANCE (See Arts Listings.)
Ballet Austin: Director's Choice/Golden Paramount Theatre

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Gallery Shoal Creek, Lotus Gallery, Ruta Maya, Volitant Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Flicker Film Festival @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm
Hurricane on the Bayou @ IMAX Theatre, 11am, 2, 4, 6, 8pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Randall Bramblett, Catfish Whiskey *The Parish*
Ruthie Foster CD Release *Antone's*
The Stingers ATX *Continental Club*

Friday 16

25TH SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION This black-tie gala benefiting the **Endowment for Performing Excellence** celebrates **Bass' 25th birthday** with an evening roster that includes a cocktail party/honor ceremony (emceed by Fox News' **E.D. Hill**), dinner, a performance of Disney's **The Lion King**, and an **African Savannah after-party**. 5pm. Bass Concert Hall, UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 471-1195. \$650 per couple. www.utpac.org.

AJNA PROJECT shows off its tribal belly-dancing talents while you eat your Cosmic veggies today. 7:15 & 8:30pm. Cosmic Cafe, 1110 West Lynn, 482-0950. www.cosmiccafeatx.com.

ALTERNATIVE RADIO features a recording of the late **Molly Ivins** discussing her book *Bushwacked: Life in George W. Bush's America*. 2pm. KOOP 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION Get ready for the year of the pig. 5-7pm. Academy of Oriental Medicine at Austin, 2700 W. Anderson, 454-1188. Free.

★ GET YOUR BAND ON TV DURING SXSW Not performing at an official SXSW venue this year? Well, then you're eligible to perform on Public Access Community Television station's *East by South East*, which will air *March 15-17* on cable Channel 16. Today's your last day to apply, so see www.pactaustin.org or visit the PACT Station, 1143 Northwestern Ave., for application details. 478-8600 x10.

MEET MAHARAJI Casa de Luz hosts a monthly introductory video session every third Friday accompanied by live music and refreshments. Today's video introduces **Prem Rawat**, better known as Maharaji. 7:30pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 479-9279. Free. www.contactinfo.net.

COURTESY OF PEGGY KELSEY



The outspoken Malalai Joya, youngest member of the Afghan parliament

Afghanistan through Peggy Kelsey's lens

[SEE SUNDAY, WOMEN OF AFGHANISTAN DURING & AFTER THE TALIBAN]

★ NATURAL BLISS & THE YOGA OF SOUND On the day before she performs at Central Presbyterian Church as part of her Celebrate Peace world tour (see Club Listings), devotional singer **Snatam Kaur** performs during this kundalini workshop taught by **Gurucharan Singh**. 6:30-8:30pm. Yoga Yoga Westgate, 4477 S. Lamar #420, 358-1200. \$30.

PEOPLE UNITED: FREEDOM TO MARRY Owen Egerton and representatives from Equality Texas and Atticus Circle discuss marriage rights and the upcoming mass same-sex wedding at City Hall on Saturday. (See Gay Place.) 1pm. KOOP 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

★ UT INFORMAL CLASSES: SALSA DANCE FESTIVAL (See Arts Listings, Dance, Two Left Feet.) 8pm. Texas Union Ballroom, UT campus.

★ WOMEN IN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE brings women together to discuss community involvement, career advance-

the young ones

THE LION KING (See Arts Listings, Theatre.) Feb. 15-March 25. Bass Concert Hall, UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive.

★ AISD TRANSFER REQUESTS for the fall 2007 semester will be accepted at Carruth Administration Center, 111 W. Sixth, Mon.-Fri., 7:45am-4:45pm, up through the Aug. 1 deadline, but priority will be given to requests received by Fri., Feb. 16. 414-1726. www.austin.isd.tenet.edu.

PINOCCHIO An interactive version of the classic tale, ideal for ages 4-10. Sat., Feb. 17, 24 & March 3, 10 (10am); Sun., Feb. 18, 25 & March 4, 11 (2pm). \$10 (\$5, kids 12 & under). Don't miss the **Supper & Show Nites**, with themed dinners before the performances: Sat., Feb. 17 & March 10 (5pm). \$20 (\$12, kids 12 & under). Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 472-KIDO. www.srct.org.

SPRING BREAK CAMP Registration has begun for Austin Children's Musuem's many half- and full-day spring break and summer camps for ages 4-11. *Austin Children's Museum at Dell Discovery Center*, 201 Colorado, 472-2499. www.austinkids.org/Programs/campgeninfo07.htm.

GAMING NIGHTS Coming to a library near you: Play video games all evening! For ages 12-17. **Thu., Feb. 15:** Old Quarry Branch, 7051 Village Center Dr. **Tue., Feb.**

20: University Hills Branch, 4721 Loyola Ln. **Wed., Feb. 21:** Terrazas Branch, 1105 E. Cesar Chavez. **Thu., Feb. 22:** North Village Branch, 2139 W. Anderson. Program continues through March 29 at various branches. Look here next week for new locations. 974-7400. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

CENTRAL TEXAS TEACH TECHNOLOGY AWARD are given to teachers who've found the most innovative ways of using technology in classroom projects. *Friday, Feb. 16*, is your last chance to nominate an instructor you know, so call 485-6206 or e-mail tom.greer@twcable.com. www.timewarneraustin.com.

HAMPTON POETS & ARTISTS FORUM (See Saturday.)

FINANCIAL AID SATURDAYS Provide **English- and Spanish-speaking assistance** (and tax-preparation help) to parents and students completing **FAFSA** and **TAFSA** forms. Appointments are recommended. Students should bring driver's licenses or alien registration cards plus a list of six universities they'd like to attend. Both students and parents should bring Social Security numbers, W-2 forms, tax returns, untaxed income records, bank statements, and investment records (all from 2006). Sessions: 9am, 10:45, and 12:30pm. Feb. 17, Lanier High School, 1201 Payton Gin; Feb. 24, Reagan High School, 7104 Berkman. 877/541-7905.

REVEALING CHARACTER ESSAY CONTEST In conjunction with the new Revealing Character exhibit, which showcases photographer Robb Kendrick's tints of modern-day cowboys, the Texas History Museum requests essays from seventh-graders exploring a time in their lives when character was important. First-place prize is a computer; all winning essays will be published in the *Austin American-Statesman*. Entry forms available online. Deadline: March 16. www.thestoryoftexas.com.

★ FRESHSTART 2007 features a full day of workshops and demonstrations (some for parents as well) aimed at improving math, science, and computer literacy among students in sixth through 12th grade. There will be lots of prizes, including a Nintendo Wii. Registration info available online. Sat., Feb. 17, 8am-4pm. Freescale Semiconductor, 7700 Parmer. Free. aansbe.org/fs/fs2007spring/index.html.

★ ENGINEERING DAY AT THE MALL has all kinds of hands-on activities, prizes, and giveaways designed to prove how cool math and science can be, plus, you'll get to see the robot that Anderson High School students are building for the international FIRST Robotics Competition. Don't forget to download the image at

studentorgs.utexas.edu/utsec/pages/?x=edam to enter the coloring contest. Sat., Feb. 17, 11am-4pm. Highland Mall, 6001 Airport. Free.

RODEO SEASON STORYTIME features *B Is for Buckaroo*, for ages 4-8. Sat., Feb. 17, 11am. Borders South, 4477 S. Lamar #600, 891-8974. Free.

★ DRUM CAFE teaches all about the West African djembe drum, plus everyone gets their own drum to play. Sat., Feb. 17, noon. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500. \$15 (\$10, kids). www.oneworldtheatre.org.

LITTLE GYM OPEN HOUSE Check out Little Gym's gymnastics and movement programs, demonstrations from current students, and live music from children's performer Laura Freeman. Sat., Feb. 17, 1-5pm. The Little Gym, 12407 N. MoPac #350. Free.

CHINESE NEW YEAR COOKING CLASS Kids ages 9 to 12 will learn to make **Firework Egg Drop Soup**, among other things, and will participate in a **tea-tasting** and traditional **red-envelope swap**. Sun., Feb. 18, 11am-1:30pm. Central Market Cooking School, 4001 N. Lamar, 458-3068. \$45. www.centralmarket.com.



TAKS/TAAS TESTING Students out of school but needing to pass portions of the TAKS or TAAS tests may take them on the following dates (bring photo ID and No. 2 pencil): TAKS English language arts, TAAS writing (Tue., Feb. 20); TAKS/TAAS math (Wed., Feb. 21); TAKS science, TAAS reading (Thu., Feb. 22); TAKS social studies (Fri., Feb. 23). 8:30am. Any Austin high school, 414-1755.

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES 2: THE SECRET OF THE OOZE Plutonium Pizza, Vanilla Ice (cream), and Turtle power! Tue., Feb. 20, 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 409-B Colorado, 476-1320. \$16. www.originalalamo.com.

COMMUNITY NIGHT Enjoy the Children's Museum's hands-on activities, exhibits, and special programming every Wednesday night for just a \$1 donation. *Austin Children's Museum at Dell Discovery Center*, 201 Colorado, 472-2499. www.austinkids.org.

AUSTIN ENERGY REGIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL gathers winning student projects from schools all around Central Texas. Viewing of Junior/Senior Division projects takes place Thu., Feb. 22, 4:30-9:30pm, while Elementary projects will be on display Sat., Feb. 24, 2:30-4:30pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 404-4020. www.sciencefest.org.

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CELEBRATE PEACE CONCERT

Featuring Snatam Kaur
with Guru Ganesha and Krishan

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Central Presbyterian Church
200 E. 8th St., Austin

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ment, and issues women face in the business environment. Register online; space is limited. 8:30am-5:30pm. *Austin Convention Center*, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-5461. mba.mccombs.utexas.edu/wblc.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) ***Hurricane on the Bayou*** @ IMAX Theatre, 11am, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10pm ***Spike & Mike's Sick & Twisted Festival of Animation 2007*** @ Alamo Village, 12mid

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) **Of Montreal** *Emo's* **Monsieur Jeffrey Evans, Ross Johnson** *Scoot Inn* **Coco Montoya** *Antone's* **Amy Cook CD Release** *The Mohawk* **Wormtone's Winter Wiggle Stomp** *Continental Club*

Saturday 17

ANNUAL LIARS CONTEST (See Arts Listings, Litera.) 2pm. *Barnes & Noble Westlake*, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652. Free.

BOOST YOUR IMMUNITY Learn what to eat for optimal immune-system functioning. Sign up at concierge desk. 11am-noon. *Whole Foods Market*, 525 N. Lamar, 476-1206. Free. www.thecrossingsaustin.com/events/events.php?sec=9&sub=1#nutritionfactsjan6.

CHINA ADOPTION WORKSHOP 11am-1pm. *Milwood Branch Library*, 12500 Amherst, 323-9595. Free. www.gwca.org.

★ **CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL** This ongoing festival features a slew of activities, including authentic Chinese Tea Ceremony demonstrations, calligraphy presentations, ancient Chinese poetry readings, music, dramatic performances, and more, culminating in the lamp parade on March 3, at

7:30pm – stop in beforehand to design your own Chinese lamp. 2-8pm. Sat., Feb. 17, 24, & March 3. *Formosa Art & Tea*, 200 E. Pecan #5, Pflugerville, 512/989-8678. www.drinkarttea.com.

HAMPTON POETS & ARTISTS FORUM An all-ages open mic for creative types of any persuasion, be you a musician, writer, artist, performer, filmmaker, storyteller, or something in between. Limit your stage time to 10 minutes, please; bring material suited for all ages. *Hampton Library*, 5125 Convict Hill, 892-6680. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

INNER PEACE THROUGH YOGA & CHANTING Taught by devotional singer **Snatam Kaur**, in town for her concert tonight at Central Presbyterian (see Club Listings), this workshop will focus on techniques drawn from kundalini yoga. 10am-noon. *Yoga Yoga Westgate*, 4477 S. Lamar #420, 358-1200. \$40. www.yogayoga.com.

LISTEN TO YOUR HIGHER KNOWING will teach you meditative techniques for creating harmony in body, mind, and spirit. 10am-3pm. *Unity Church of the Hills*, 9905 Anderson Mill, 335-4449. \$25. intuitiveguide@yahoo.com.

MEDICINAL HERBALISM: THE BASICS 9:30am-4:30pm. *Austin School of Herbal Studies*, 8803 Bear Creek, 301-5838. \$75. www.ezherbs.net.

MEDICINAL YOGA FOR BACK PAIN Please RSVP 1-2:30pm. *Human Potential Center*, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$15 (\$50/four weeks). www.humanpotentialcenter.org.

★ **SECOND LIFE'S FROGG MARLOWE** The popular (and MTV-hyped) singer-songwriter from the online 3-D world of Second Life performs a live concert here in Austin meatspace, as presented by the virtual-world development company Metaversality. 2pm. *Mozart's Coffee Roasters*, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900. Free. www.metaversatility.com.

★ **SUPPORT THE RIGHT TO MARRY** (See Mass Marriage Day, Gay Place.) 2-4pm. *Austin City Hall*, 301 W. Second.

TEXAS BAMBOO SOCIETY meets at the Taniguchi Japanese Garden for a **Bamboo Garden Study & Workday**, 10am-12:45pm. Bring a saw, hand clippers, and loppers, and learn what to do with them as part of the **Taniguchi Revitalization Project**. Afterward (1pm), meet in the garden center for **Beginning With Bamboo**, a workshop on the species that grow well in Austin (call to register). *Zilker Botanical Garden*, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 929-9565.

VIDEO & DISCUSSION GROUP Watches *Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont* this week, as a springboard for discussing this month's topic: how to maintain satisfying relationships. 7pm-12mid. *Human Potential Center*, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. Free. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.

VOLUNTEER FOR AUSTIN PARKS FOUNDATION Help dig holes, mix concrete, clear trash, trim brush, and install directional signs at Lower Shoal Creek Greenbelt. Sign up online. 9am-noon. www.austinparks.org/volunteer.php.

VOLUNTEER TREE PLANTING You'll start out planting 60 trees at *Perry Park*, 4900 Fairview, before you move on to *Ramsey Park*, 4301 N. Rose-dale Ave., to plant 25 more. E-mail Tree Folks to let 'em know you're coming. 9am-noon. scott@treefolks.org, www.treefolks.org.

VOLUNTEER WORKDAY Help remove young juniper trees to maintain habitat for the endangered Black-Capped Vireo bird in the Cortana tract of Balcones Canyonlands preserve. 9am-1pm. *Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge*, 24518 FM 1431, just past Lago Vista, Lago Vista, 512/263-6443. daniel.dietz@ci.austin.tx.us.

WHEN RELIGION BECOMES EVIL Charles Kimball, author of *When Religion Becomes Evil*, kicks off a series of weekend appearances with an evening talk, **Understanding Islam Today: What in the World Is Going On & Why** (Sat., Feb. 17, 6pm), followed by Sunday's presentation, Q&A, and booksigning (9:45am), and concluding afterward with his worship-service lecture, **Hope for the Perilous Journey Ahead** (11am). First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity, 476-2625.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.) **MASS Gallery**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) ***Hurricane on the Bayou*** @ IMAX Theatre, 11am, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10pm ***Spike & Mike's Sick & Twisted Festival of Animation 2007*** @ Alamo Village, 12mid

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) **Fuckemo's** *Scoot Inn* **Til We're Blue Or Destroy, Awesome Cool Dudes** *Independence Brewery* **R.L. Burnside Tribute** *Beerland* **Wormtone's Winter Wiggle Stomp** *Continental Club*

Sunday 18

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION An art sale and exhibition, plus lots of entertainment and vegetarian food, brought to you by the International Buddhist Progress Society of Austin. 1-3pm. *Hsiang Yun Temple*, 6720 Capital of TX Hwy. N. Free. www.ibps-austin.org.

ETHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTIN MEETING This week's platform: **Dangerous Ideas**. 10am-noon. *AMOA-Laguna Gloria*, 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191.

day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Mildred “Babe” Didrikson Zaharias was Michael Jordan, Tiger Woods, and Lance Armstrong all rolled into one 5-foot-7-inch, 115-pound frame. In an athletic career that spanned 23 years, she amassed a collection of medals and trophies that spills out of a small museum in Beaumont.

The Babe Zaharias Museum on I-10 in Beaumont is a big trophy case for the person chosen as the World's Greatest Athlete, man or woman, at the post-Olympic meet held in Chicago in 1932. Next to the 2-foot-tall silver cup awarded to her in Chicago are her three medals from the Los Angeles Olympics. She would go on to be honored as the Woman Athlete of the Year six times, including three straight years (1945-47) and Woman Athlete of the First Half of the 20th Century in 1950.

Born in 1911 in Port Arthur, Didrikson got her nickname either from her mother or from the neighborhood boys because she was the Babe Ruth of the sandlot baseball games. By high school she was a star athlete. Before she graduated, a Dallas insurance company hired her as a secretary, and she became the leading scorer on the company's semiprofessional basketball team.

Beginning at the 1930 Amateur Athletic Union Championships, she was setting world records in track and field events. By the 1932 Olympics, she was already a rising national star. Limited to entering three events, Didrikson won gold medals in the 80-meter hurdles and javelin. The judges awarded her the only half-silver, half-gold medal in Olympic history for tying in the high jump after she was penalized for going over the bar head first.

Immediately after the Olympics, Didrikson began to capitalize on her fame as a sports hero. Her witty banter with sportswriters gave them plenty to write about but led her teammates to call her arrogant and pushy. When her name appeared in an automobile advertisement, Didrikson lost her amateur status.

At the height of the Depression, with her Norwegian immigrant parents to support, Didrikson went on the barnstorming circuit. She played on basketball teams, a men's baseball team, and was the star in billiard and bowling tournaments. She pitched in a Major League Baseball exhibition game, where she struck out Joe DiMaggio. In the museum are copies of phonograph records she made singing and playing the harmonica on the vaudeville circuit.

By 1933, Didrikson had discovered golf. She won her first tournament in 1934. Over the next 20 years, she won 82 golf tournaments, including 36 professional tournaments, and was one of the 13 founding members of the Ladies Professional Golf Association.

Able to smash a golf ball more than 240 yards, Didrikson burned up the toughest courses, often setting course records. In 1943, she was the first American to win the British Women's Amateur Championship. When allowed to compete, she often qualified in men's professional tournaments.

A set of her golf clubs sits in a corner of the museum along with trophies and newspaper headlines. A crowd-pleaser at any tournament, Didrikson played to the gallery with wisecracks and displays of athleticism. When asked how she hit the golf ball so

far, she replied, “It's not just enough to swing at the ball. You've got to loosen your girdle and really let the ball have it.”

Unfortunately, the body that had served her so well gave out at an early age. In 1953, she was diagnosed with colon cancer. After surgery, she returned to the circuit to win five more tournaments before she was hospitalized for the last time. She died at the age of 45 in 1956. Didrikson and her husband, George Zaharias, established the Babe Didrikson Zaharias Foundation that still gives money to cancer research, women's athletics, and supports the museum. The Babe Zaharias Museum is at 1750 E. I-10 in

Beaumont. Admission is free to the exhibit daily, from 9am to 5pm. For more information, call 409/833-4622.

More of Babe's trophies can be seen in the clubhouse at the Babe Zaharias Golf Course in Tampa, Fla. You can see her famous golf swing in the movie *Pat and Mike* with Katharine Hepburn. Didrikson's life story is portrayed in the 1975 movie *Babe*, with Susan Clark and Alex Karras.

816th in a series. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of “Day Trips” 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: *Day Trips*, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

HERITAGE QUILT GUILD SHOW features antique and modern quilts, needlework, and demonstrations of everything from vintage cooking to canning to gardening tools. *Through Feb. 25. Public Library*, 115 E. Second., *Shiner*, 361/594-3044.

FRENCH PAINTINGS FROM THE MET visits Texas on the way to Berlin while New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art undergoes renovation. Culled from a wide range of European masters, the artwork spans more than a century. *Through May 7. Museum of Fine Arts*, 5601 Main, *Houston*, 713/639-7300. www.mfah.org.

MARDI GRAS GALVESTON takes over the historic downtown area for music, parties, masked balls, and waves of parades. *Through Feb. 20. Galveston*, 888/425-4753. www.mardigrasgalveston.com.

JUSTICE FOR ALL: ARTISTS REFLECT ON THE DEATH PENALTY shows the work of 55 artists, including 13 from Texas' death row, addressing state-sponsored executions. *Thu.-Sun., Through Feb. 18. Gallery M2*, 325 W. 19th, *Houston*, 713/861-6070. www.m2-houston.com.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY MOTORCYCLE MASSACRE meets at the fairgrounds for live music, two halls of vendors, bike contests, food and drink booths, and a long lineup of events. *Fri.-Sun., Feb. 16-18. Kendall County Fairgrounds*, Boerne, 210/865-7188. www.massacrerally.com.

BARN DAY FUN takes you on a journey into the past with demonstrations of traditional crafts and food-prep techniques from turn-of-the-century Texas. Sat., Feb. 17, 10am-2pm. *Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historical Site*, West Columbia, 979/345-4656.

UPROOTED FILM SERIES presents movies and documentaries about Palestinians and others from occupied territories, from Jerusalem to Baghdad. The free festival includes several films that have never been shown in Central Texas. *Fri.-Sun., Feb. 16-18. Esperanza Center*, 922 San Pedro, San Antonio, 210/228-0201. www.esperanzacenter.org.

1846 ANNEXATION CEREMONY features a re-creation, in an authentic 19th century village, of when the Republic of Texas formally joined the Union as the 28th state. Up the block on East Mill Street, the Round Top Area Historical Society holds their annual community garage sale with bargains galore. *Fri.-Sun., Feb. 16-18. Henkel Square, Round Top*, 888/368-4783. www.roundtop.org.

HUNG-IN Fall in love with fun all over again while listening to live music all afternoon and then enjoying the evening dance. Sat., Feb. 17, noon; dance at 9pm. *Luckenbach*, 830/997-3224. www.luckenbachtexas.com.

SPECIAL VALENTINE'S PACKAGE includes two romantic nights at a historic inn on the Medina River, plus supper and breakfast in bed for \$330-404. *Any weekend in February. Landmark Inn*, *Castroville*, 830/931-2133. www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landmarkinn.

ENCHANTED ROCK SUMMIT TRAIL TOUR begins at the gazebo at the base of the granite dome and works its way to the top with knowledgeable guides pointing out interesting features along the way. Sat., Feb. 17, 9-11am. *Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, Fredericksburg*, 325/247-3903. www.tpwd.state.tx.us.

the **GAY place**

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

2007 AUSTIN WOMAN'S FILM, MUSIC & LITERARY FESTIVAL CALL FOR ENTRIES Hey, Ladies! The festival formerly known as **Blowin' Up a Spot!** Film Festival: A Woman's Perspective seeks female filmmakers, musicians, actors, workshop presenters, spoken-word artists, and screenwriters. Check the Web site for entry guidelines and wee fees. Come on, blow it up. Early deadline: Sat. Feb. 17 (postmarked). Media Arts & Literacy Institute, PO Box 42188, Austin, 78745. www.blowinupspot.com.

ONE FREAK SHOW: LESS ROCK, MORE HILARITY Vanguard of the queer/trans community **Lynnee**

Breedlove shows the **Off Center** how to really get off! Revolutionary author of punk rock novel *Godspeed* (pretend we're Oprah, and read this book), Breedlove is hotter than arson, and maybe more criminal, bringing to stage his/her/shizznit's sizzling queer homo-hop-punk-rock-stand-up-comedy — a show so unafraid and unabashed, it'll make you think. *The Off Center*, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$12-25.

COOCHIE-COO: SAY IT TO ALL THE BEAUTIFUL BABIES

Grrrr. Too bad the bartender isn't the kind of scout to sell some cookies. Catch our drift ...? The **Cooch**, as we say in the biz, is becoming such the hot lesbo dance party ... so hot, they're moving all the chairs out of the way to make more room for da boogie. Sunshine. Moonlight. Good times. Blame it on the boogie. Tell Slim and Kitty the GP sent you. *Thu.*, Feb. 15, 8pm. *The Peacock*, 515 Pedernales, 276-8979. Free.

GAY PLACE ITALIANO We are. Yup, both Kates: Paisano/as, we. More Italian than your back hair. And, boy is Italy hot right now ... (Pizza, anyone?). Thus, **Naughty Austin** presents **Mambo Italiano**, a comic-drama featuring the ins-and-outs of gay and straight relationships, Italian male-on-male machismo, and the moms and dads in denial. Sounds fun to us. *Begins Thu.*, Feb. 15. *Thu.-Sat.*, 8pm. *Arts on Real Theatre*, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. www.artsonreal.com.

COMING UP ON KOOP Turn yer dials (to 91.7FM), so we can tromp down them aisles. Tune in to **People United: Freedom to Marry**, a program featuring comedian **Owen Egerton** and fellow activists fighting the good fight for equality and the right to say, "I do." **Allan Campbell** hosts, with a weekly commentary from **Rahul Mahajan**. *Fri.*, Feb. 16, 1pm. KOOP 91.7FM www.koop.org.

AMY COOK CD RELEASE PARTY This blond bombshell does more than drive our dream truck (a light-blue late-Sixties convertible Inta'national Scout), she also makes one helluva folk-rock album. Come get one of your own, with guests: **Joshua Bingaman** and **Michael Kingcaid**. *Fri.*, Feb. 16, 10:30pm. *The Mohawk*, 912 Red River, 482-8404.

OH, YOU'VE GOT SOME CHISUM ON YOUR SHIRT It's a Battle Royale at the Capitol. The players: Republican representative with a heart of coal, **Warren Chisum**, and you, the citizen who holds steadfast to the belief that all people deserve civil liberties, regardless of race, class, gender, or sexual orientation. Ahem. As newly elevated chair, Chisum has made one of his first orders of biz (which contradicts earlier declarations of leaving the gay out of it this year) the sneaky groundwork for a "preference system" in place for foster care in Texas. Layman's terms: He "favors tweaking state law to give heterosexuals preferred status as foster parents over gay parents." Well, boy howdy, Warren, old buddy, old pal: What the hell is it you're most afraid of, darling? Not to fear, dear, lobby day is here. (Well, soon.) So, gay families and supporters, please mark your planners: **March 5**. We're packing the rafters with the stories that matter. Be heard. www.eqfed.org/ct/a7Agc3n1pX7M/lobby_day.

ACTOM Because men are like coffee — the best ones are rich, hot, and can keep you up all night.



Join the newest online way to meet men, **Austin Coffee, Tea, or Me?**, a group to help you find Mr. Right ... or at least Mr. Right There, oh, right there. groups.yahoo.com/group/actom.

QUEER WAVES KOOP programming that keeps the queerest of sensibilities in mind, hosted by **Taylor Cage**. *Saturdays*, 3-4pm. 91.7FM

MASS MARRIAGE DAY The continuing denial of marriage rights to same-sex couples costs them more than 1,138 rights and responsibilities under the law. So come on out to City Hall Saturday for a mass marriage ceremony (four-tier wedding cake and music included), and ring your wedding bells loud and clear in support of the right to marry. *Sat.*, Feb. 17, 2-4pm. *Austin City Hall*, 301 W. Second

MOMMY MAYHEM Come join the every-third-Sunday book group that never needs to ask that age-old question: "Did you baste, or did you party?" Babies (as long as you keep 'em wrangled and on your person) are welcome. *Sun.*, Jan. 18, 7pm. *BookWoman*, 918 W. 12th, 472-2785.

DAMM!BEAVER: LESBO DANCE MADNESS Dark, private corners, gyrating go-go's, and you, right in the middle of the hottest ladies night since those women's groups in the Sixties. **DJ A!** Right spins that goooooo shit. As always, whipped little kitties, especially welcome. *Sun.*, Feb. 18. *Chain Drive*, 504 Willow, 480-9017. \$3. www.myspace.com/dammbeaver.

OZ PARTIES' POTLUCK DINNER Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish.

As always, Oz means to provide the opportunity for HIV-plus straight, gay, bisexual, and transgendered individuals to meet for fellowship and the opportunity to make new friends. *Sun.*, Feb. 18, 4-8pm. *34th Street Cafe*, 1005 W. 34th, 406-6408. \$5-10 contribution. theoyparties@hotmail.com, www.theoyparties.org.

Q'S SPEED-DATING FOR THE BOYS Join your host Geoff and a room full of fellas, ages 18-29, for the quickest way to meet oodles and oodles of eligible men. Glorious. *Mon.*, Feb. 19, 9-10pm. *The Cockpit Club*, 113 San Jacinto, 420-8557. mp_austin@sbcglobal.net, www.qboyz.org.

SEXY SUNDAYS! Lordy, lordy. Now *this* is what Sundays should look like. Community-making, booty-shakin' — to **DJ Wu** (aka visual artist Wura Ogunji) whipping up some hot, nasty beats. Trunks. Junks. Ga-dunks. *Sun.*, Feb. 25, 2-6pm. *Cafe Mundi*, 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634. \$5. www.sharonbridgforth.com, www.cafemundi.com.

AGLIFF'S 20 FOR 20 Enjoy an intimate sit-down with local icon **Liz Lambert** and renowned architect **Emily Little**. Wine, dine, and pick their brains. (Pick the right raffle, and get a DWR \$600 giveaway. Ooooh. We likey.) *Tue.*, Feb. 20, 7-9pm. *Design Within Reach*, 200 W. Second, 472-7200. \$20. www.agliff.org/event_20for20.php.

THE RETURN OF TRIVIA NIGHT Join **Quizmaster Lois** and the gang for another rousing round of memorized minutiae. The devil's in the details as our fave little just-off-SoCo cafe resumes its regular night of testing wits against stiff competitors like "Nipple Confidence," "The Pole Humpers," and "Four Lumps of Coal" ... or whoever shows up to play. Bring a team, or try to jump on one once you get there. And of course, you will be competing for fabulous prizes. Plus the kitchen's open, so indulge in N.O.'s impossibly good grub. Did somebody say **Breasteses**? *Wed.*, Feb. 21, 7pm. *Nueva Onda*, 2218 College, 447-5063. www.nuevaaustin.com.

BITCH For years, she's been straddling more than the lines between performance art, comedy, and music (her boy-toy Little Prince, the **L-Word**'s Max, aka Daniela Sea, for one). And now, ass-over-dreadlocks, Bitch's branging it to Austin, with mustachioed defiance, revolution, and that danged fiddle. Grrrl, we love that fiddle. *8pm. Thu.-Sat.*, Feb. 22-24. *The Off Center*, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833.

REGISTER NOW FOR THE SAFEPLACE WALK! Grab yer joe and a pen; it's time to sign up for the 20th annual walk (*Waterloo Park*, April 14) honoring those affected by abuse and sexual assault. Do yer part. *Thu.*, Feb. 22, 7-10am. *Austin Java*: 1608 Barton Springs Dr. or 300 W. Second www.safeplacewalk.org.

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Black History Month

★ **12 BLACK CLASSICISTS TRAVELING EXHIBIT** is on display at *Huston-Tillotson*, 900 Chicon, honoring the 12 men integral to the movement to teach Greek and Classical music to African-Americans. *Wed., Feb. 21, 4-6pm; Fri., Feb. 23, 10am-noon; Sat., Feb. 24, TBA; Mon., Feb. 26, 4-6pm.* Anthony and Louise Viaer Alumni Hall. Free.



Reuben S. Lovinggood

Exhibit creator **Michele Ronnick**, author of *The Autobiography of William Sanders Scarborough: An American Journey From Slavery to Scholarship*, is also visiting and will be speaking at HT's Agard-Lovinggood Auditorium, which is named after **Reuben S. Lovinggood**, one of those original 12 classicists. Ronnick will be addressing the question: "Was it a waste of time to teach blacks Greek literature or expose them to classical learning?" A booksigning follows. *Wed., Feb. 21, 3pm.* Free. www.htu.edu.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE NETWORK BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM celebrates this year's national Black History Month theme, **From Slavery to Freedom: The Story of Africans in the Americas**, with a program featuring music, poetry, a skit called "The Struggle," and a talk from UT's Diversity Vice President **Gregory J. Vincent**. *Wed., Feb. 21, 11:30am-1pm.* Givens Recreation Center, 3811 E. 12th, 974-1403.

ANNUAL W.E.B. DUBOIS LECTURE University of Illinois African-American and gender studies professor **Erik S. McDuffie** presents **The Sojourners of Truth & Justice: Radical Black Feminism & Human Rights During the Cold War**. *Tue., Feb. 20, 2pm.* Huston-Tillotson campus, Agard-Lovinggood Auditorium, 900 Chicon. Free. www.htu.edu.

GARLAND GREGORY is a writer and political-science teacher who studied under Barbara Jordan. He'll be giving a talk, and signed copies of his ***When Nigger Became Chic*** will be available, with proceeds benefiting **Friends of the Austin Public Library**. *Sat., Feb. 17, 2:30-4:30pm.* University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

★ **BLACK COWBOYS IN TEXAS: CHRONICLING HISTORY** A panel discussion in conjunction with the Texas History Museum's newest exhibit, *Revealing Character: Robb Kendrick's Texas Tintypes* (see Arts Listings, Visual Arts, Events). Speakers include National Cowboys of Color Hall of Famer **Ken Pollard**, Cowboys of Color rodeo director **Liz Lawless**, and others. Call to reserve your spot. *Sun., Feb. 18, 2-4pm.* Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 Congress, 936-4649. Free.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EXHIBIT honors the accomplishments of **Martin Luther King Jr.** with photos, historical documents, and more. *Mon-Fri, 9am-4:30pm.* Huston-Tillotson campus, Jackson-Moody Lobby, 900 Chicon.

CARVER HONORS ITS PIONEERS with a show-case of African and African-American artwork, literature, and photography. *Thu., Feb. 15, 6-8pm.* Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 974-1010. Free.

★ **HARVESTING OUR YOUNG** The ninth monthly gathering of the **African American Men & Boys Conference** celebrates Black History Month with the introduction of the first **African American Women and Girls Joint Conference**, which features a full lineup of speakers and workshops; entertainment from **Larry Shannon Hargrove**, **Judy Arnold**, **Corey "Tha-Proof" Anderson**, and the **Grimy Brothas**; and a special keynote from **Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes** director **Byron Hurt**. (See News, p.TK.) *Sat., Feb. 17, 10am-2pm.* LBJ High School, 7309 Lazy Creek. Free. mrioftontalkshow@sbcglobal.net.

JAMES FARMER'S FREEDOM RIDE Narrated by **James Farmer**, the civil rights leader who founded the **Congress of Racial Equality**, this 22-minute film tells the story of the 1961 **Freedom Ride** organized by CORE to challenge the segregation of interstate transportation. (Papers that belonged to Farmer are available for research at UT's Center for American History.) *Every Saturday in February, 11am, 1, 3pm.* LBJ Library & Museum, 2313 Red River, 721-0200. Free. www.lbjlib.utexas.edu.

SALUTE TO AFRICAN-AMERICAN WRITERS PRESENTS MASQUERADE: POEMS OF CALYPSO AND HOME *Thu., Feb. 22, 7pm.* Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress, 707-9637. \$7 (\$5 advance). www.rutamaya.net.

GERMAN-AMERICAN PHILOSOPHER PAUL CARUS' INFLUENCE ON BUDDHISM IN THE U.S. A lecture from UT Asian studies assistant professor **Oliver Freiburger**, brought to you by the **German-Texan Heritage Society**. *3pm.* German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927. Free. www.germantexans.org.

HEALING ALLIANCE'S MONTHLY GATHERING *Third Sundays, 2-5pm.* *The Healing Alliance*, 3939 Bee Caves Rd. Ste. A-200, 680-1540. Donations accepted. www.thehealingalliance.com.

★ **LAST SUNDAY** This monthly gathering aims to combine the best elements of a political rally, church service, literary salon, and concert. The February outing (technically falling on the second-to-last Sunday) focuses on Iraq and dominance in U.S. policy. Speakers include **Jim Hightower**, **Ana-Maurine Lara**, and LS regulars **Bob Jensen** and the **Rev. Jim Rigby**. **Butch Hancock** and **Eliza Gilkyson** perform. Refreshments and child care provided. *6-8pm.* Saengerrunde Hall, 1607 San Jacinto. Free. www.thirdcoastactivist.org/lastsunday.html.

PKD POTLUCK SUPPORT & SOCIAL A get-together hosted by the Austin chapter of the **Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation**, which works to raise funds and awareness of this life-threatening and thus-far incurable genetic disease. *3-7pm.* Private residence, Round Rock, 512/335-7563. pkd.coordinator.austin@gmail.com.

RELIGIOUS SCIENCE INTERNATIONAL MINISTERS CONFERENCE gathers religious-science movement leaders from around the country (including Religious Science International President Candice Beckett) to discuss the common truths shared by science and all of the world's religions and philosophies. (See Wednesday for details on ACRS Rally Night.) *1-4pm.* Austin Center for Religious Science, 4701 West Gate Blvd. Ste. A-103. \$25. www.austincrs.net.

TAIZÉ SERVICE Originating from a community in 1940s France where Roman Catholics and Protestants worshipped together, the Taizé service is a meditative blend of music, words, and silence. *6:30pm.* First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity, 476-2625. www.taize.fr/en_rubrique8.html.

THE ART OF JAPANESE-STYLE ROPE BONDAGE Bring your own 25- to 27-foot-long, cotton-based rope. *Intro, 2-5pm; intermediate, 6-9pm.* Forbidden Fruit, 108 E. North Loop, 453-8090. \$20 (\$25, advance). www.forbiddenfruit.com.

★ **WOMEN OF AFGHANISTAN DURING & AFTER THE TALIBAN** First Unitarian's Public Forums series presents a myth-dispelling presentation from

Austin photographer and writer **Peggy Kelsey**, who has traveled through Afghanistan and whose photos of Afghan women, taken as part of the **Afghan Women's Project**, are displayed in the church this month. *11:30am-12:30pm.* First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. www.kelseys.net.

WHEN RELIGION BECOMES EVIL (See Saturday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) ***Hurricane on the Bayou*** @ IMAX Theatre, 2, 4, 6, 8 **Sounds Seen: The VJ Competition** @ Alamo Downtown, 9:45pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) **George Showalter Benefit** *The Parlor* **Gojira** *Stubb's*

Monday 19

AUSTIN POND SOCIETY MEETING: BONSAI TREES, TRAINS, AND PONDS *Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 477-8672.* www.austinpondsociety.org.

AUSTIN TRAVEL CIRCLE MEETING *7pm.* Austin International Youth Hostel, 2200 Lakeshore, 444-2294. Free. www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austintravelcircle.

★ **DEMOCRACY FOR TEXAS** screens the documentary *The War Tapes*. (See Special Screenings.) *7pm.* Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, 474-1958. Free.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) ***Eddie Murphy Raw*** @ Alamo Downtown, *7pm* ***Hurricane on the Bayou*** @ IMAX Theatre, *11am, 2, 4, 6, 8pm* ***Lola*** @ Texas Union Theatre, *7:30pm*

Tuesday 20

AUSTIN CAREER FAIR *10am-2pm.* Crowne Plaza, 6121 N. I-35, 371-5211. www.grsjobfairs.com.

FREE CLASSES AT THE HUMAN POTENTIAL CENTER Tour of Meditation Practices: Learn a new technique each week, *6:15-7pm.* Reiki Exchange: Learn and practice, *7:15-8:45pm.* 2007 Bert, 441-8988. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.

HEALING QUIGONG *Tuesdays, 8:30-9:30am.* Academy of Oriental Medicine at Austin, 2700 W. Anderson, 454-1188. \$12. www.aoma.edu.

Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

THE MAIN EVENT

★ **AT&T AUSTIN MARATHON** Fourteen American runners will be competing for a finishing time worthy of the U.S. Olympic team trials. To qualify, the men need a time less than 2:22:00 and the women 2:47:00. This year's race route features a loop course with a common start and finish line on Congress Avenue between the Texas State Capitol and Sixth Street. *Sun., Feb. 18, 7am.* Congress Avenue, 536-6961. www.attaaustinmarathon.com.

FLW TOUR This tour featuring top bass anglers from around the world will take place on lovely Lake Travis, with the winning professional angler taking home \$125,000. *Thu-Sun., Feb. 15-18.* Mansfield Dam Park, Lake Travis. Live weigh-in: *Thu-Sun., Feb. 15-18, 4-6pm.* Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez. www.flwoutdoors.com.

THE HOME TEAMS

AUSTIN TOROS Vs. Fort Worth: *Fri., Feb. 16, 7:30pm.* Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez St. www.nba.com/dleague/austin.

AUSTIN ICE BATS Vs. New Mexico: *Fri., Feb. 16, 7:30pm.* Vs. Memphis: *Sat., Feb. 17, 7:30pm.* Chaparral Ice Arena, 14200 N. I-35, 252-8500. \$15-35. www.icebats.com.

★ **ROLLERGIRL BOOKSIGNING WITH MELICIOUS JOULWAN & THE TEXAS ROLLERGIRLS** Author and Rollergirl Melissa "Melicious" Joulwan will be on hand to sign copies of her new book, *Rollergirl*, and our own **Chrontourage** will be there handing out plenty of swag. For Chris Gray's full interview with Joulwan, see our online sports blog, the Score. *Tue., Feb. 20, 7pm.* BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar. Free. www.txrollergirls.com.

HUSTON-TILLOTSON Men's Basketball Vs. Texas College: *Sat., Feb. 17, 4pm.* Vs. Texas Wesleyan University: *Mon., Feb. 19, 7:30pm.* Vs. Southwest Assemblies of God: *Thu., Feb. 22, 7:30pm.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Texas College: *Sat., Feb. 17, tba.* Vs. Texas Wesleyan University: *Mon., Feb. 19, 5:30pm.* Vs. Southwest Assemblies of God: *Thu., Feb. 22, 5:30pm.*

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Softball Vs. Texas Lutheran (DH): *Tue., Feb. 20, 1 and 3pm.* **Men's Tennis** Vs. Hawaii-Hilo: *Thu., Feb. 15, 2pm.*

Women's Tennis Vs. Hawaii-Hilo: *Thu., Feb. 15, 2pm.* **Baseball** Vs. Panhandle State (DH both days): *Fri., Feb. 16, noon; Sat., Feb. 17, 11am.* Vs. Angelo State: *Tue., Feb. 20, 2pm.* **Men's Basketball** Vs. Lincoln: *Thu., Feb. 22, 8pm.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Lincoln: *Thu., Feb. 22, 6pm.* www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Men's Basketball Vs. Texas Tech: *Tue., Feb. 20, 8pm.* Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. **Women's Basketball** Oklahoma State: *Wed., Feb. 22, 7pm.* Frank Erwin Center. **Softball** Texas Classic Fri-Sun., Feb. 16-18. North Texas vs. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi: *Fri., noon.* San Diego State vs. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi: *Fri., 2:30pm.* UT vs. San Diego State: *Fri., 5pm.* UT vs. North Texas: *Fri., 7:30pm.* North Texas vs. San Diego State: *Sat., 11am.* UT vs. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi: *Sat., 1:30pm.* Semifinal games: *Sat., 5 and 7:30pm.* Third place game: *Sun., 10am.* Championship game: *Sun., 12:30pm.* McCombs Field, 2001 Comal. **Baseball** Vs. Stanford: *Fri., Feb. 16, 2:30pm; Sat-Sun., Feb. 17-18, 1pm.* Vs. Texas State: *Tue., Feb. 20, 2:30pm.* Dell Diamond, Round Rock. **Men's and Women's Swimming** American Short Course Championships: *Thu., Feb. 22, all day.* Texas Swimming Center, 1900 E. Campus Dr. www.texassports.com.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Baseball Vs. Southwestern: *Fri., Feb. 16, 7pm.* Alumni game: *Sun., Feb. 18, 1pm.* **Softball** Vs. Sterling College (DH): *Fri., Feb. 16, 3 and 5pm.* athletics.concordia.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Baseball Vs. Huston-Tillotson: *Thu., Feb. 15, 3pm.* Vs. Concordia: *Sat., Feb. 17, 2 and 5pm.* Vs. McMurry: *Wed., Feb. 21, 2pm.* **Men's Basketball** Vs. Austin College: *Fri., Feb. 16, 8pm.* Vs. Hendrix: *Sat., Feb. 17, 8pm.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Austin College: *Fri., Feb. 16, 6pm.* Vs. Hendrix: *Sat., Feb. 17, 6pm.* southwesternpirates.cstv.com.

RECREATION & FITNESS

ADULT CO-REC SOFTBALL LEAGUE The Austin Parks and Recreation Department is offering an adult co-rec softball league beginning March 11. The league has a six-game/six-week schedule. Registration runs through Feb. 16 (late registration Feb. 19-21). For more, call 445-6003, or see www.capitalcitysoftball.com.

ADULT CO-REC KICKBALL LEAGUE Anybody out there like to have fun? Thought so. Registration is open for the spring season of this adult kickball league. The season begins Feb. 21 and 23 (continuing Wednesdays and Fridays). Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek. 476-5662 to register. \$165 per team. www.leaguelineup.com/cityofaustinkickball.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

FORMER U.S. OLYMPIAN JEFF GALLOWAY HOSTS RUNNING SCHOOL Former U.S. Olympian and author Jeff Galloway holds a training seminar for runners as part of the events surrounding the AT&T Austin Marathon. *Sat., Feb. 17, 9am.* AT&T Austin Marathon Expo, Palmer Events Center. \$249 (full day); \$149 (half day). www.jeffgalloway.com.

The **Houston Dynamo** open their season on the road this week, at Puntarenas in Costa Rica, in a CONCACAF Champions Cup quarterfinal. It'll be shown live on Fox Soccer Channel, *1:30pm Wednesday, Feb. 21.* The return leg will be played in College Station, *Thursday, March 1, 8pm.* Tickets at Ticketmaster; www.houstondynamo.com.

The **European Champions League** Round of 16 gets under way next week as well. ESPN2 will apparently show games live every day of the 2007 season, focusing on British teams; on Tuesday, Feb. 20, they have **Arsenal at PSV Eindhoven**. *1:30pm.* On Wednesday, it's **Chelsea at Porto**, also *1:30pm.* Other matchups: Roma-Lyon, Real Madrid-Bayern Munich, Inter Milan-Valencia, Barcelona-Liverpool, Celtic-Milan, Lille-Man Utd.

The **FA Cup** Round of 16 is this weekend, after Arsenal and Middlesbrough just secured the last spots Wednesday.

World Cup champs **Italy** have knocked Brazil off the top of FIFA's world rankings after a record 55-month reign. It's Italy's first time at No. 1 since 1993. The U.S. is 28th.

– Nick Barbaro

Ongoing Events

★ **CALL FOR DONATIONS: YMCA OF AUSTIN PRESCHOOL** is accepting donations of merchandise and gift certificates for sale in their annual silent auction in March. All profits will benefit YMCA's Partner of Youth scholarship program for kids whose families cannot afford to pay for their memberships. You can mail donations (monetary donations are accepted) to YMCA of Austin Preschool, Attn.: August Day-Pita, 6219 Oakclaire, Austin, TX 78735; call or e-mail for additional info. 892-4440. spita@mac.com.

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM is accepting nominations for people and projects that are helping ensure a sustainable and livable future for Central Texas. Got someone in mind? Visit www.envisioncentraltexas.org and fill out a nomination form. **Deadline:** March 1. 916-6037.

INFO SESSIONS FOR AUSTIN MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES WITH CHRONIC ILLNESS
Golden Corral North, 9710 N. Lamar: 11:30am; Feb. 19, 22, 26. Golden Corral South, 3607 S. Lamar: 11:30am; Feb. 20, 27. www.careimprovementplus.com.

★ **RADICAL ENCUESTRO** is a weekend-training session just outside of Austin for anyone interested in political activism. It offers four tracks: environmental/climate justice and environmental racism, skills for organizing, anti-oppression and liberation activism, and spirit in action. Call for details. *Fri.-Sun., March 2-4. Belle Springs, 512/236-9518 or 512/297-1049. \$15-50 (meals included).* www.radicalencuentro.org.

HILL COUNTRY NUDISTS MONTHLY INTRODUCTION MEETING A clothed introduction to the clothing-optional lifestyle. *Mr. Natural, 2414-A S. Lamar, 916-9223. www.hillcountrynudists.com.*

★ **LAWRENCE LESSIG** will speak today. The Stanford law professor and *Wired* columnist has written several books on cyberspace and Internet culture and has been named one of *Scientific American's* Top 50 Visionaries. 7pm. Hogg Auditorium, West 24th & Whitis, 471-1444. Free (passes available at Texas Union ticket office).

WORLD FUTURE SOCIETY MONTHLY MEETING
KOOP 91.7FM's Neilin Hudani hosts tonight's talk, **Heartfelt Conversation About the Future**. Reserve your spot online. 6pm. Marie Callendar's, 9503 Research #400, 349-7151. www.centexwfs.org.

LITERA (See Arts Listings.)
Lawrence Lessig Hogg Auditorium

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Greetings @ Harry Ransom Center, 7pm
Hurricane on the Bayou @ IMAX Theatre, 11am, 2, 4, 6, 8pm
Iron Island @ Alamo South, 7pm
Polyester @ Alamo Downtown, 9:45pm
SXSW Animated Program @ KLRU, 9pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
The Roots, Lupe Fiasco Stubb's
Kodo Drummers Paramount Theatre

Wednesday 2 1

ACRS RALLY NIGHT A follow-up to Sunday's Religious Science International Ministers Conference sponsored by the Austin Center for Religious Science, tonight's rally features several speakers who are widely known in the movement. Afterward, dance your cares away to the rhythms of Rhythm Congress. 7pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 485-5999. www.austincrs.net.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION: *The Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the March 2 issue is Monday, Feb. 19.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Kate X Messer or Kate Getty (The Gay Place): gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

Mark Fagan (Sports): gameplans@austinchronicle.com.

Nora Ankrum (everything else): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor, 454-5766 or brenner@austinchronicle.com.

★ **GROWING SEASON: THE LIFE OF A MIGRANT COMMUNITY** Featuring photos and stories from the book of the same name, this exhibit explores the lives of legally documented migrant workers and their families who travel to Ohio every year from the Texas-Mexico border. *Through Feb. 27. First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity, 476-2625. www.growingseason.net.*

INSTITUTE OF DIVINE METAPHYSICAL RESEARCH LECTURE SERIES features free lectures *Tue. & Thu., 7:30-9:30pm*, and *Sun., 11am-1pm*, each beginning with a choir interlude. Institute of Divine Metaphysical Research, 8705 Shoal Creek #203, 928-4974. www.idmr.net.

LIMITED ENGAGEMENT

AMERICAN CAMP ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE Brings more than 1,200 camp professionals to town along with some very cool speakers and child-development experts, including David Elkind, author of *The Power of Play*. *Tue.-Fri., Feb. 13-16. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 485-5999. www.acacamps.org/conference.*

★ **TAYLOR FAMILY BENEFIT** Though it's been a year and a half since Ben Sklar took his infamous, award-winning photo of the Taylor family rescue during *Hurricane Katrina*, the Taylors are still struggling to recover. That's why proceeds from this week's exhibit of Sklar's work will all benefit the Taylor family. *Through Feb. 17. Tiru Gallery, 3701 Guadalupe #103, 773-6684.*

WOMEN'S RITES OF PASSAGE A three-retreat series (Feb. 23-25, March 23-25, April 20-22) drawing from the rite-of-passage rituals of various indigenous cultures. Registration deadline: Feb. 15. \$600. www.riverstoneretreat.org.

DIALOGUE ON THE COST OF POVERTY Today's panel discussion is a Poverty Awareness Month event featuring E3 Alliance's Susan Dawson, Center for Public Policy Priorities' Don Baylor, and AISD trustee Karen Dulaney Smith. Call or e-mail to RSVP. *Light breakfast, 7:45am; program, 8-9:30am. United Way Capital Area Headquarters, 2000 E. MLK, 414-2198. swoollar@austinsid.org.*

★ **DISCUSSION ON SCHOOL DESEGREGATION** Texas Appleseed and UT's Thurgood Marshall Legal Society host this panel discussion on school desegregation cases recently argued before the Supreme Court. *Noon-2pm. UT Campus, School of Law, Francis Auditorium. Free. studentorgs.utexas.edu/tmls.*

INTIMACIES DISCUSSION GROUP: THE ART OF EXOTIC DANCING 7-8:30pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. Free. karenkreps@netingenueity.com.

★ **KLRU SPARK SPEAKER SERIES** Journalists Maria Hinojosa (host of NPR's *Latino USA* and senior correspondent for PBS's *NOW*) and Ray Suarez (of PBS's *The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer*) discuss immigration, family, and the nation's future. 7:30pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$43.50. www.klrutv.org/spark.

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB: YOU REALLY CAN TELL THE IRS WHAT YOU THINK! Learn about the **Taxpayer Advocacy Panel**, a group of volunteers who examine IRS problem areas and make recommendations for improvement. 7-8:30am. UT Club, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman, 479-9460. \$15 (members/first-time guests). www.mbcaustin.org.

★ **PHOTOGRAPHIC ESSAY PRESENTATION ON COFFEE** Daniel and Linda Rice Lorenzetti, authors of *The Birth of Coffee*, will have a photographic presentation on their travels and the history of coffee, followed by a booksigning and accompanied by free refreshments from Ruta Maya. Make your reservation online. 7pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 974-7400. Free. www.austinlibrary.org.



The KLRU Spark Speaker Series brings journalists Ray Suarez and Maria Hinojosa (above) to town Wednesday.

SHAMANIC JOURNEY with Tibetan bowls, didgeridoos, and a wind gong. Call or e-mail to reserve your spot. 7:30pm. NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 443-3013. \$20. jodi@sacredinspiration.com, www.sacredinspiration.com.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

For the Love of Dolly @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm
Hurricane on the Bayou @ IMAX Theatre, 11am, 2, 4, 6, 8pm
Open Screen Night @ Alamo Downtown, 9:45pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Red Sparowes, My Education Emo's
The Championship, Driftn' Luke Trophy's
Darling New Neighbors, Baby Robots,
Triplewide Chain Drive
Rapid Ric & the Whut It Dew Family,
Chingo Bling The Parish

Thursday 2 2

★ **ASH INSIGHTS ART SHOW & SALE** showcases the work of local artists and patients at the **Austin State Hospital**, which will use all of today's sales proceeds to increase patient quality of life. Jazz trio Kevin Witt, David Chao, and Brad Houser will play, as will harpist Elaine Barber. 6-9pm. IBC Bank/Crescent Real Estate, 816 Congress, 419-2330. \$35. www.ashinsights.org.

HELPING CHILDREN IN THE AFTERMATH OF DISASTERS: AN EMPIRICALLY INFORMED INTERVENTION Austin Child Guidance Center presents its 24th annual Children's Mental Health Seminar. 8:30am-4:30pm. Joe C. Thompson Center, UT campus, Dean Keeton & Red River, 451-2242. \$80 (\$65, group; \$45, student). www.austinchildguidance.org.

MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA'S ANNUAL HONORING DINNER GALA Former UT quarterback Vince Young will introduce Houston's Jim McIngvale family, who will be awarded tonight with the **Texas Mental Health Champion Award** for their accomplishments in educating the public about OCD. Reception, 6pm; dinner, 7pm. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 478-4500. \$250 & up. www.mhatexas.org.

THEATRE (See Arts Listings.)
St. Nicholas Hyde Park Theatre

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Women & Their Work

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Humanoids From the Deep @ Alamo Downtown, 12mid
Hurricane on the Bayou @ IMAX Theatre, 11am, 2, 4, 6, 8pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Big Black Smoke Emo's
The Always Already Whisky Bar
Oliver Rajamani, the Places The Peacock

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CHARLES KIMBALL

Free Admission

Saturday, February 17th, 6pm:
Dr. Kimball will lecture on *Understanding Islam Today: What in the World is Going On and Why?*

Sunday, February 18th, 9:45am:
Presentation, Q & A, and book signing.

Sunday, February 18th, 11am:
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Romeo and Juliet

City Theatre, through Feb. 18

Running Time: 2hrs, 45 min

They’re with us again, the most famous pair of lovers, star-crossed or no, that ever graced a stage or a page. Words of love as sweet as those that pass between this pair of young sweethearts have rarely been writ, but if it were just a simple love story, *Romeo and Juliet* wouldn’t resonate as it has throughout the centuries. As with so many of Shakespeare’s plays, the theme of vengeance and its consequences is as much a part of the story as is the theme of newborn love, and in this case, violence does nothing but beget more violence and the tragedy that follows.

That Mother of Invention Productions has chosen this towering dramatic achievement as its premier offering is admirable, but, as with so many new Austin theatre companies that choose a difficult and challenging piece to launch their artistic enterprises, this one has set itself a task that its members are not entirely up to accomplishing. Shakespeare lives and, unfortunately, dies with his verse. If his lines aren’t, first and foremost, spoken well, then chances are a production isn’t going to work. The actors who succeed here are the actors who seem to have some familiarity with the verse and how it should be delivered, such as Jessica Robertson as Juliet’s mother, Lady Capulet, and Alexander Epstein as the vengeful, doomed Tybalt. Each speaks the verse well and, almost as important, brings a powerful presence onto the stage. The single most effective line in this

production is delivered by Robertson’s Lady Capulet: “O me! This sight of death is as a bell,

That warns my old age to a sepulchre.”

Doesn’t sound like much, does it? It isn’t. There are many more memorable lines in the play, famous pieces of verse that don’t carry much weight in this production because the actors don’t have the knowledge, skill, and experience to work the verse.

While director Kathryn West seems to have the actors she needs to get the job done – both Andrew Cannata as Romeo and Noellia Hernandez as Juliet are appropriate for their roles – she sabotages herself with her staging. For example, she chooses to leave Juliet’s bed on the City Theatre stage for the entire length of the show. Granted, the bed is a versatile set-piece, being used at times as a bed, a balcony, and a slab in a tomb. The problem is that the bed is covered in white and has a large white sheet hanging behind it. Both reflect light constantly, drawing the eye and, thus, often upstaging the actors on the otherwise black stage. Upstaging seems to be an accidental motif in the show,

as actors stand in front of one another on more than a few occasions, and Romeo, with West’s help, manages to upstage himself for practically the entire length of the famous balcony scene.

Shakespeare’s play is genius, and the riches available in the Austin theatre community are boundless and certainly on display here. But here’s hoping that for its next production, Mother of Invention chooses something for which its reach doesn’t exceed its grasp.

– Barry Pineo

Theatre

OPENING

THROWS LIKE A GIRL: LYNN BREEDLOVE The whip-smart lyricist/singer of Tribe 8 presents her *One Freak Show: Less Rock, More Hilarity*, a one-woman explosion of “queer homohop punkrock standup comedy on transgender bodies, feminism, family, and ‘community.’” *Thu.-Sat., 8pm, Feb. 15-17. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. www.rudemechs.com.*

FRONTIERFEST 2007 The 14th year of the alternative theatre festival wraps up with an offering of **Best of the Fest Short Fringe**, the very cream of this year’s performative crop. *Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. www.hyeparktheatre.org.* *Regardez:*

Thu., Feb. 15: Wildcard Night: “Ben Franklin: A Rock Opera,” by Spencer Driggers, Michael Federico, and Cameron Cobb (the Getalong Gang Performance Group); “Ben Prager” is presented by Ben Prager and stars, yes, Ben Prager; “Riverview Ritz,” by Candyce Rusk, briefly exposes the lives of

those charged with helping others to “laugh your troubles away”; Rocky Hopson’s “Tale of the Song Bird” is an Old West puppet show; “Parachute,” by Tom Coiner, involves two guys (and one chute) falling out of an airplane. *8pm. \$16.*

Fri., Feb. 16: Sold out

Sat., Feb. 17: Wildcard Matinee: “Spinning the Bottle,” by Krissi S. Reeves, features bizarre love poems and existential anthems for the cynical romantic; Kelley Estes’ “Rabid Eye Movement”; “Department of Angels” is Schave & Reilly’s slapstick comedy about angels in the workplace; “St. Anthony,” by Sean Tribe, directed by Emily Fordyce, goes a little gonzo on the path to sainthood; “Time” is a spoken-word piece by Tony Jackson, Erin Livingston, Ruff Draft, and Krissi Reeves of the Austin Poetry Slam, directed by Mike Henry. *2pm. \$14.*

Sat., Feb. 17: Best of Fest Bill B: “Bliss,” by Steven Paul Laing, is a Brechtian assault on bourgeois notions of happiness; “The Wussy Boy Manifesto III” is Big Poppa E doing his ferocious and funny spoken-word thing, but Patti still says “Nix,” yo; Peter Snoad of the Vestige Group presents “My Name Is Art,” which sounds strangely familiar; Laura Freeman and her lovely ukulele explore how “Luna Tart Died of a Broken Heart”; and, finally, the Frank Mills present their sterling brand of character-driven improv. *8pm. \$16.*

AFTERPLAY This romantic one-act from Irish playwright Brian Friel reintroduces audiences to two famous Chekhov characters (Sonya from *Uncle Vanya* and Andrey from *Three Sisters*) who meet in a Russian cafe 20 years after their original stories ended. Starring Babs George and Austin Playhouse Artistic Director Don Toner. *Feb. 15-March 11. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$20 (\$10, students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES EN ESPANOL Eve Ensler’s popular, multivoice stage production gets a rendition in Spanish as a fundraiser for Arte Sana and SafePlace. *Feb. 15-16. Thu.-Fri., 7:30pm. El Buen Samaritano, 7000 Woodhue, 439-0700. \$15 (\$10, students, seniors; discounts for advance purchase, too). www.texasperforms.com*

MAMBO ITALIANO Here’s Steve Galluccio’s musical comedy of gay and straight entanglements and the parents who complicate them, as directed with much song and/or dance by Blake Yelavich for Naughty Austin. *Feb. 15-April 1. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real Theatre, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. \$20-25. www.naughtyaustin.com.*

THE LION KING Usually a show this big roars (ha ha) into town, and your Listings editor, ever so jaded and cynical, lists it without personally giving a damn about the production itself, truth be told, because, c’mon, it’s Big Flashy Disney Theatre, so who cares? Well, I know that lots of people *do* care, yes, but my point is that *this* show is beyond the scope of “jaded” or “doesn’t really care for big theatre” or anything. You likely know the story presented here: The movie was a Good True Thing, full of (at least cartoony) drama and delight and deeper meanings, and bore repeated viewings. This stage extravaganza, from what we’ve heard (on da streetz, yo) and seen (in “making of” snippets) is just as wonderful and *even more effective*, as it’s right there, live, and the care and talent that goes into the production (the costumes! the choreography!) is mind-boggling. So you’re going to see it; it’s a done deal. But if you’re trying to convince any scowling, hipper-than-thou motherfucker that he (or she) would enjoy it, too ... maybe this listing will help? The scowling curmudgeon Brenner says: Go. *Feb. 15-March 25. Evening shows (8pm) and several different weekend matinees. Bass Concert Hall, UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 471-1444. \$21.50-69.50. www.utpac.org.*

THE VORTEX READING SERIES: IN THE BLOOD The Vortex Repertory Company presents a staged reading of Suzan Lori-Parks’ modern-day reimaging of Hawthorne’s *Scarlet Letter*. This latest installment in the Living Room series is directed by Michelle K. Fowler. Also: free bagels. *Sun., Feb. 18, noon. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. Free (donations accepted). www.vivavortex.org.*

★ **ST. NICHOLAS** Back again for just one weekend: Irish playwright Conor McPherson’s excellent one-man piece about an influential theatre critic who falls in with a gang of vampires, starring HPT’s Ken Webster, who’s more than good enough to make the whole thing *swing* in a spooky, Scotch-fueled fashion. *Thu.-Sat., Feb. 22-24, 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. \$15 (pay what you can, Thursday). www.hydeparktheatre.org.*

ONE CLASSY-ASS SHOW Austin’s classiest improv savants – Bob McNichol, Rachel Madorsky, Dave Buckman, and Erika May, aka the Frank Mills – turn their talents to sketch comedy in this initial outing in preparation for their big show in May. Here’s your chance to be among the first to catch this amazing troupe of internationally lauded performers as they skewer the personal, social, political, and commercial issues of Austin and beyond. Including a dance tribute to Barack Obama’s presidential candidacy?

Hells, yes! With musical direction and accompaniment by John Ratliff. Recommended. *Thu.-Sat., Feb. 22-24, 8pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 415-2896. \$15. www.thefrankmills.com.*

THROWS LIKE A GIRL: BITCH Formerly of Bitch & Animal, Bitch has launched her solo career and now busts out twist-yer-guts love-and-hate songs with punchy rhymes and defiant girl music. Which will be in full, vivid evidence for this final third of the Rude Mechs’ annual TLAG series. *Thu.-Sat., Feb. 22-24, 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$12-25. www.bitchmusic.com/bhome3.htm.*

CITY SONGS: AN ENCORE MUSICAL PRODUCTION The City Theatre Company returns with their musical revue that presents the best of Broadway with songs from *Chicago*, *Les Miserables*, *Wicked*, *Dreamgirls*, *Rent*, and others. *Feb. 22-25. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 524-2870. \$10-15. www.citytheatreaustin.org.*

CLOSING

AN IDEAL HUSBAND is Oscar Wilde’s *other* witty social comedy, overflowing old-school society’s soup tureen of manners with bon mots and sharp insights into blue-blooded human nature. Austin Playhouse’s Don Toner directs a top-notch cast (David Stahl and Bernadette Nason, anyone?) in this period piece of high-stakes blackmail and financial chicanery. *Through Feb. 18. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$22-25 (half price for students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

ROMEO & JULIET The new Mother of Invention theatre company presents their version of the classic romantic tale by William Shakespeare, just in time for your Valentining pleasure. *Through Feb. 18. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun, 2:30pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D. www.motherofinventionproductions.com.*

★ **SPURT: A COMING OF AGE VALENTINE** offers a live, tour-guided rendition of the mile markers of puberty: the first mention of sex by a parental figure, the first coed social event, the first wisps of pubic hair, tampons, slumber parties, sibling relationships, glands, first kisses, and (of course) the discovery of masturbation. Presented by your extremely funny pals at the **St. Idiots Collective**, recommended by your slightly biased pals at the *Chronicle*, and, for the love of God, hurry up and make a reservation. (Ack. Too late: SOLD OUT.) *Through Feb. 17. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. www.myspace.com/stidiotcollective.*

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the March 2 issue is Monday, Feb. 19.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy.
brenner@austinchronicle.com.

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical.
dance-classical@austinchronicle.com.

Ric Williams, litera. **litera@austinchronicle.com.**

Benné Rockett, visual arts. **art@austinchronicle.com.**

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor.
brenner@austinchronicle.com.

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FREE with exhibit admission
Celebrate the opening of an exhibition that focuses on the modern day Texas cowboy with a theatrical performance in the gallery.

Black Cowboys in Texas: Chronicling History
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Whether these cowboys were helping to blaze the Goodnight-Loving Trail or just working cattle on any number of iconic Texas ranches, black cowboys have always played an important role in the Story of Texas. Join us to learn about these contributions and meet modern day African American cowboy personalities.

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February 14-17

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DEARLY BELOVED The Paradox Players present this comedy (by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, and Jamie Wooten), in which the Futrelle sisters of Fayro, Texas, are “throwing a wedding, come hell or high water.” Directed by Karen Jambon. *Through Feb. 18. Fri-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 744-1495. \$15. www.paradoxplayers.org.*

MAKING LOVE IN PUBLIC Easy Theatre Company’s annual paean to romantic comedy returns with its two original stars (Engela Edwards and the all-lowercase John daniels jr.) giving it a go for your Valentine entertainment. “Five couples, two acts, and novelties.” It’s that “novelties” bit that always intrigues us. *Fri-Sat., Feb. 16-17, 8pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 303-5516. www.makingloveinpublic.com.*

ONGOING

LA DISPUTE Capital T Theatre Company presents this romantic farce by Marivaux, as translated by Gideon Lester and directed by Mark Pickell, in which an aristocratic couple attempts to recreate the Garden of Eden to discover who first cheated on whom. *Through Feb. 24. Thu-Sat., 8pm. Preas Theatre, Austin High School, 1715 E. Cesar Chavez. \$15-25. www.capitalt.org.*

365 DAYS/365 PLAYS The acclaimed playwright Suzan-Lori Parks wrote a play a day for an entire year back in 2002. Now every single one of those plays is going to be staged at various venues all across the U.S.: New York, Seattle, Los Angeles, and so on. But *Austin* is where the yearlong cycle begins, so get set for 10 weeks of theatre – with short plays of only 10 minutes, perhaps, and longer ones of 20 or more – as only Suzan-Lori Parks can write it. This week: *Fri., Feb. 16, 7pm. Directed by Kathleen Fletcher, outside Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd. www.zachscott.com*

MACBETH Say it loud, say it proud. “MacBeth!” Say it in a theatre, say it in the car, repeat it almost endlessly until it sounds bizarre. “MacBeth!” And check out this production of the Bard’s bloodiest tragedy. Directed by David Long. *Through Feb. 25. Wed-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Mary Moody Northern Theatre at St. Edward’s University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8484. \$15 (\$10-12, in advance).*

PRESENT LAUGHTER This madcap (and partially autobiographical) farce is one of playwright Noel Coward’s funniest works, in which a narcissistic and “self-dramatizing” middle-aged actor does vigorous social battle with a young playwright, his secretary, his ex-wife, his business partners, and possibly a potted palm or two. This show is, like, the ground zero of snark, and features TV soap star Jamie Goodwin as the self-obsessed Essendine. Directed by Dave Steakley. *Through March 11. Thu-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$28-38 (\$12, student rush tickets). www.zachscott.com.*

Les McGehee (bottom) and Owen Egerton wax improvalicious and funny in *Plays Well With Others* at ZACH.



LES MCGEHEE PLAYS WELL WITH OTHERS Indeed he does, and here he’s playing with the likes of Owen Egerton (who also directs), Lee Eddy, and other local stars, in an improvisational comedy show that’ll have you laughing while learning just what it means to play. You’ve seen McGehee as characters in regular ZACH productions (*Urinetown!*, *Keepin’ It Weird*), now you can witness the man himself, in all his wild (albeit family-friendly) improv glory. Recommended. *Through Feb. 25. Fri-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$15-20. www.zachscott.com.*

DINNER THEATRE

A CRUISE SHIP CRIME Gary Payne and his madcap Capital City Mystery Players present this humor-riddled, interactive sleuthing caper where you help to solve the mystery of thefts and murder aboard “the luxury cruise ship *Titanium*.” With full-course Italian fare sating your appetite as you go. *Feb. 15-17. Thu-Sat., 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$29.95. www.meatballs.com.*

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.captcitycomedy.com.

John Evans Well, of course he’s gonna make you laugh! Why else was Evans the featured comic at the Valentine’s Day show, there among your glasses of Champagne and fried Snickers? Oh, and **Lisa DeLarios** opens. *Feb. 15-17. Thu., 8pm; Fri-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

Open Mic Comedy Seasoned pros and up-and-comers knock themselves out to benefit the Austin Children’s Shelter. *Sundays, 8pm. \$2 (free, college students).*

Marc Maron doesn’t have to call himself Eminem to tickle your sense of cleverness, oh no, because he’s fuckin’ funny enough as is, a’ight? Yes, and the fab **Lucas Molandes** opens. *Feb. 20-24. Tue-Thu., 8pm. Fri-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

COLDTOWNE THEATRE 4803 Airport. www.coldtowne.com.

What a lineup! Features some of Austin’s best stand-up and (especially) improv: **Parallelogramophonograph**, the cutest improvisers in town, weave stories that are equal parts poignant and absurd; **Shannon McCormick** presents the improv’d adventures of 18th century spice merchant **Cornelius Corneliszoon De Vries**; and **Improv for Evil** evokes the imminent Apocalypse. *Thursdays, 8pm. One-Woman Showdown* is sketch comedy in which **Kaci Beeler** and **Jill Morris** offer their personal interpretations of *Harry Potter* and *It’s a Wonderful Life* – as one-woman shows – and attempt to show how they’re really, pretty much, the same movie; **Hoover’s Blanket** gets all territorial in their “Rivals” show; and ColdTowners **Tami Nelson** and **Michael Jastroch** polish off a bottle of scotch onstage during their sketch called **Lovey & Lovey. Fridays, 8pm. That Other Paper presents ... Standup Comedy Showcase. Fridays, 10pm. Whirled News Tonight** is where the news is real, but everything else is improvised by a crack team of performers. Emphasis, perhaps, on “crack.” *Saturdays, 8pm. ColdTowne* The mighty house troupe rocks your night with fierce improv until you’re handed off to **Girls, Girls, Girls**, a kickass phalanx of females who create longform musical improv. *Saturdays, 10pm. You, Me, and Greg are sometimes improv, sometimes sketch, always unpredictable. *Sundays, 7pm.**

ESTHER’S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.esthersfollies.com.

Esther’s Follies The most popular comedy troupe in town returns with their riotous musical send-ups of local and national politics and cultural phenomena, with the incredible and – *ai! ai! ai!* – spicy illusions of master magician **Ray Anderson** an audience-galvanizing feature. *Reservations highly recommended. Thu., 8pm; Fri-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military.) Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688. www.heroescomedy.com.

AUSTIN IMPROV Let the Austin Improv Collective and friends take away some of the season’s chill with a little extemporaneous comedifyin’:

Friday: Improv Threefer features **Foolish Mortals**, **Kazillionaire***, and **Leading Brands. 8pm. \$7-10. The Double Barrel** features **Available Cupholders** and the **Frank Mills 10pm. \$7-10.** And late night’s **Cage Match** brings as challengers, the potentially feline-themed **Pussy Shame. 11:30pm. \$7-10.**

Thursday Night Awesome: ColdTowne’s Chris Trew and **Dave Buckman** of the **Frank Mills** host an Ed Sullivan-style show of stand-up, improv, and sketch comedy to start your pre-weekend off on the right rockin’ foot. This week: **\$10 Bourbon** (improv), **Bearded Lamb** (improv), **Donnybrook** (sketch), **Little Stolen Moments** (dance), and the musical stylings of **Phil Aulie’s Ukelele.**

Saturday: The Heroes of Comedy present an improv format called **Six Degrees**, so Bring Your Own Bacon. *8pm. \$7-10. Maestro* is a fierce, multipartite battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by you, the audience. *Highly recommended. 10pm. \$7-10.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. www.thevelvetaroom.com.

Lucas Molandes Okay, we love this guy. And we think you will, too. We also think that, unless he falls into a terminal booze-sodden or drug-riddled stupor in the years to come, the man’s gonna be big time indeed; so catch this funny local feller in a small venue while you still can. With **Chris Allen** and **Carey Moore. Fri-Sat., Feb. 16-17, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.**

Spite Club Returns so the two semi-finalists (this week: **Chuck Watkins** vs. **Jonathan Pace**) can snark each other into oblivion, while **John Rabon** and **Matt Bearden** egg them on. *Thursdays, 9:30pm.*

BUT WAIT – THERE’S MORE!

THE FRANK MILLS: ONE CLASSY-ASS SHOW Austin’s classiest improv savants – Bob McNichol, Rachel Madorsky, Dave Buckman, and Erika May – turn their talents to *sketch* comedy in this initial outing in preparation for their Big Show in May. Here’s your chance to be the among the first to catch this amazing troupe of internationally lauded performers as they skewer the personal, social, political, and commercial issues of Austin and beyond. Including a dance tribute to Barack Obama’s presidential candidacy? Hells, yes! With musical direction and accompaniment by John Ratliff. Recommended. *Thu-Sat., Feb. 22-24, 8pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 415-2896. \$15. www.thefrankmills.com.*

Dance

ARTHUR MURRAY DANCE STUDIO TEXAS CLASSIC DANCE Ballroom, country & western, latin, and swing dancing are on display and include dancing stars Tony Dovolani and Elena Grinenko of *Dancing With the Stars!* as dancers and judges (and stars, too, of course). Students and professionals from across the state compete for prizes and awards, and the whole shebang is open to the public. Check the Web site for specific session times and topics. *Sat, Feb. 17, 10am ‘til late. Hilton Austin Hotel, 500 E. Fourth. Sun., Feb. 18. Arthur Murray Dance Studio, 2700 W. Anderson #504. 454-7663. \$25, Saturday spectator pass. Evening gala: \$95 (\$75, Arthur Murray students). www.textdance.com.*

KATHY DUNN HAMRICK DANCE COMPANY: FLASH DANCE! February finds KDHD back in the studio theatre to offer you everything from the subtle to the outrageous when the dancers perform a montage of 30 dances in 60 minutes. Whew! *Through Feb. 24. Saturdays, 5 & 8pm. Cafe Dance, 3307-B Hancock, 934-1082. \$12 (\$10, in advance; reservations required). www.kdhdance.com.*

★ **BALLET AUSTIN: DIRECTOR’S CHOICE/ GOLDEN BALLET** Austin offers the Austin premiere of Twyla Tharp’s “The Golden Section,” the climactic part of *The Catherine Wheel*, a collaborative work she created with David Byrne, as well as a new work by Gina Patterson, and more. *Feb. 15-18. Thu-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 866/4GET-TIX. \$15-59. www.gettix.net.*

1,001 NIGHTS

ARARAT Almost every night of the week, beautiful belly dancing accompanies your Mideast feast. Reservations encouraged. *Nightly, times vary. Ararat, 111 E. North Loop. 419-1692.*

CLEOPATRA Belly dancing with true Egyptian flavor. *Fri-Sat., 8pm-2am. Cleopatra, 2620 S. I-35. 947-9462.*

TWO LEFT FEET

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Participants move in and out of contact with one o more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. \$5.*

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED MODERN DANCE CLASS Ellen Bartel (artistic director of Spank Dance Company) leads classes in modern dance. *Wednesdays, 7-8:30pm. Dance Discovery. 2110-A White Horse. \$10. www.spankdance.com.*

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Get fired up with flamenco dance classes for beginners and intermediates. Handy central location to boot. Call for times. *2801 W. 45th. 382-1366. \$10 per class (private lessons available). www.estudioflamenco.com.*

UT INFORMAL CLASSES: SALSA DANCE FESTIVAL Come join the party at a night of sizzling salsa dancing. Dwip Banerjee conducts short lessons in salsa, merengue, and cha-cha, then the Brew takes the stage to help you practice what he teaches. *Fri., Feb. 16, 8pm. Texas Union Ballroom, UT campus. 23-CLASS. \$15 (\$10, in advance). www.informalclasses.org.*

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS ABD sponsors ballroom dancing with DJ-ed music weekly, year-round. *Saturdays, 8-11pm; minilesson, 7:30pm. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek. 989-3939. www.austinballroomdancers.org.*

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Open to all, these ballroom and latin sessions are a great way to practice or learn new steps. Each night features a variety of dances; each month sees the start of a new, progressive course. No partner necessary. *Sundays, 6-8pm. Dancers Workshop, 183 & Balcones Woods. Weeknights, times vary. Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd. 32-DANCE. Fees vary. www.danceinl.org.*

BELLYDANCE CLASSES Twyla of Twyla & the Twilight Star Ensemble offers a variety of bellydance classes out in Leander. *Class times vary, Mon.-Wed., 7:30-9:30pm; Fri., by appt. 971-0188. www.twylabellydance.com.*

AUSTIN SCANDINAVIAN DANCING Turning and improvised couple dancing for beginning to advanced dancers. No partners needed; wear slick-soled shoes. *Thursdays 7:30-9:45pm. Lesson at 7:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598 or 453-9633. \$3. www.austinscandi.org.*

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE With live music. *Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. \$3. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm.*

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Learn a variety of couples’ and line dances from around the world before the open dance session. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. No partner required. *Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons); open dance 8:15-11pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5. www.yastreb.com/tfd/alfd.html.*

AUSTIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Come alone or with a partner; beginners always welcome (kilts optional). *Thursdays, 7-9pm. Quicksilver Dance Studio, 8711 Burnet. First session free. www.austinscd.org.*

MODERN JAZZ DANCE CLASS A stylized choreographic blend and technique class targeted toward the intermediate/advanced dancer. *Tuesdays, 8:30pm. Tapestry Dance Company, 507-B Pressler, 458-6336. \$10. www.tapestry.org.*

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners’ lesson starts the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women’s Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$4 (\$2, members). www.austinswingsyndicate.org.*

FOUR ON THE FLOOR: CLASSES Ongoing classes for various levels of expertise in Swing and Lindy Hop culminate in a weekly dance. New classes usually start the first Tuesday of the new month. *Tue., 7pm (classes), 9:30pm (open dance). Texas Federation of Women’s Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. Prices vary. www.fouronthefloor.com.*

Classical Music

NOTES & ENCORES

ROME FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA: VOLUNTEER SEARCH The Rome Festival Orchestra needs volunteers to help with the festival in Rome, Italy, this summer. The Rome Festival presents symphony concerts with chorus, chamber music concerts, and fully staged operas and classical ballets. Volunteers serve in Rome for two or more weeks. Their out-of-pocket expenses usually qualify as charitable contributions with the IRS. Volunteers are needed from all performing arts areas: choral singers, backstage helpers, set designers, artists, and more. Phone (during morning hours) or e-mail to inquire about specific positions. 800/811-3841. www.geocities.com/romefestival.

OPENING

TEXAS EARLY MUSIC PROJECT: CELTIC KNOT This collaboration of local and regional artists performs favorite Scottish ballads, traditional harp music, Breton folk tunes, and Irish songs and jigs, all from the 16th-19th centuries. *Fri., Feb. 16, 8pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa. Sat., Feb. 17, 8pm. First English Lutheran Church, 3001 Whitis. 371-0099. \$18 (\$13, seniors, students).* www.early-music.org.

AUSTIN CHAMBER MUSIC CENTER: SPARKS & FRIENDS 25TH ANNIVERSARY POPS CONCERT The Sparks serve up an eclectic, fun-loving batch of classical tunes in a pops event that has become an Austin institution. *Fri.-Sat., Feb. 16-17, 7:30pm; Sun., Feb. 18, 3pm. An elegant home. 454-0026. www.austinchambermusic.org*.

ST. CECILIA SERIES: VIRTUOSO MUSIC OF THE BAROQUE Wieland Kuijken, viola da gamba; Corey Jamason, harpsichord; and Eva Legêne, recorder; perform early music works, featuring three trio sonatas by Bach, Telemann, and Joseph Bodin de Boismortier, respectively, as well as Carl Friedrich Abel's rarely heard *Five Pieces in D Minor* for unaccompanied bass viol. Legêne leads a recorder workshop the day before, focusing on works by J.S. and C.P.E. Bach, and Frederick the Great. Workshop: *Sat., Feb. 17, 9:30am-3:30pm. Performance: Sun., Feb. 18, 4pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa. Tickets: 345-8866, workshop: 458-8023. \$15 (\$12, seniors, students); workshop: \$25. www.fpcastin.org/news/music.html*.

AUSTIN SYMPHONY: FEBRUARY POPS: GLEN CAMPBELL The guitar-plucking rhinestone cowboy is back by popular demand. Grammy winner and music legend Campbell is in town for one night only. He's joined onstage by daughter Debbie and the Goodtime band, as well as a few dozen evening-dress-clad pops-ready orchestral musicians. *Sat., Feb. 17, 8pm. Riverbend Centre, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N. 476-6064, 888/4-MAESTRO. \$25-40. www.austinsymphony.org*.

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC Anton Nel, Piano Professor Nel performs works by Haydn, Debussy, Enrique Granados, and Robert Schumann. *Sun., Feb. 18, 4pm. Bates Recital Hall. \$10 (\$5, UT students). Dealing With Stage Fright* David Ice leads this funny but practical seminar on how to deal with performance anxiety. *Tue., Feb. 20, 5pm. Recital Studio, MRH 2.608. Free.* After you get over your inhibitions, come to Ice's evening performance, **Hooray for Harpwood**, where he'll offer an entertaining and informative look at how the harp is used in the motion picture industry, with multimedia examples of some of the harp's finest moments of cinema. *Tue., Feb. 20, 7:30pm. Recital Studio, MRH 2.608. Free. James Ryon, Oboe* Ryon will perform a diverse range of music from the oboe repertoire, including works by Gordon Jacob, Ravel, and Barber. *Tue., Feb. 20, 8pm. Jessen Auditorium, Homer Rainey Hall. Free. 471-5401. www.music.utexas.edu*.

ONE WORLD THEATRE: EROICA TRIO Rewelcome these returning performers, no strangers to Austin, who enchant and enthrall in one of the world's most sought-after piano trios. *Sun., Feb. 18, 5pm. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 32-WORLD. \$20-55. www.oneworldtheatre.org*.

A. MOZART FEST: BENEFACTOR'S GALA AFTER-NOON A concert of works by Mozart, Dvorak, and Shostakovich, performed by the NYC Diller-Quaile School of Music String Quartet and pianist Mary Robbins, are followed by a catered wine and food reception for this, AMF's sole fundraiser of the year. AMF has been bringing Mozart's music to Austin audiences for 15 years now: come help celebrate and support this excellent group. *Sun., Feb. 18, 3pm. A private home (phone for directions). 371-7217 or 301-0562. \$250. www.amozartfest.org*.

Flash Dance: 30 Dances in 60 Minutes

Cafe Dance, through Feb. 24

Running time: 1 hr

This is the season of short, that time of year when local stages are especially likely to serve up abbreviated works. Think of FronteraFest, with its bounty of 25-minute performances in the Short Fringe, and Austin Independent Choreographers' *Dance Carousel*, spinning out 40 one-minute dances in the Long Fringe. Then there's Austin Script Works' annual harvest of 10-minute plays in its Out of Ink festival (coming our way in March at the Blue Theater). It's an exciting time, not so much because brevity always equals quality, but because the constraints of time seem to inspire creators to rethink what they're doing, to find a new economy of word or gesture for communicating meaning, to distill their art to its essence.

So it is with choreographer Kathy Dunn Hamrick, who has gotten into the act this year with *Flash Dance*, a program presenting, as its subtitle helpfully informs us, 30 dances in 60 minutes. Set aside, if you can, those inevitable images of a backlit Jennifer Beals getting waterlogged; you'll find no MTV gyrations or Eighties glitz here, just pure, clean, clear movement in expressive, compact little nuggets. Dunn Hamrick has divided the 30 dances into five sections, each with a particular focus – a part of the body, parts of the studio space, words – from which a host of different dances spring. Hands inspire a solo involving a knife and fork manipulated by a dancer wearing a table around her waist, as well as a duet set in frigid water (Barton Springs, perhaps?), where the dancers use their hands first to warm their chilled bodies then to propel themselves under the surface. The studio prompts a group of dancers to grip the bar and arch their bodies outward, playing off the tension in their arms and backs; one dancer to position herself in a corner, pressing against this wall and that wall, exploring the space in which the two meet; and one dancer to use a structural pole as a partner. Two dancers improvise move-

KODO DRUMMERS Athletic pageantry and spiritual beauty are the hallmarks of this celebrated Japanese ensemble, which explores the limitless possibilities of the drum, from small thumper to the thunder of the 900-pound Odaiko. *Tue., Feb. 20, 8pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. www.austintheatre.org*.

RIVER CITY POPS: GETTING IN THE MOOD The pop/variety show choir brings the melodic rhythms of jazz, blues, swing, Latin beats, pop, and rock & roll to the stage, with a focus on songs of *lurve* for the Valentine season. In addition to the song-love, there is a silent auction and interpretation in American Sign Language. Proceeds benefit the Capital Area Food Bank of Texas. Love it! *Feb. 22-25. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 & 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Reagan High School Performing Arts Center, Highway 290 East & Berkman. 350-7677. \$15 (\$10, seniors, students; \$7, children). www.rivercitypops.org*.

Visual Arts

EVENTS

PETCASSO: ANIMAL ART FROM THE HEART is an auction to raise money for Animal Trustees of Austin. Pets and their celebrity owners – like musicians Sheryl Crow, Ray Benson, and Sara Hickman – have donated works. *Sun., Feb. 18, 5pm. Barr Mansion, 10463 Sprinkle. 450-1504. animaltrustees@yahoo.com*.

TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM: ROBB KENDRICK'S TEXAS TINTYPES Modern cowboys, photographed via ancient methods which render each photo a singular work of art (yes, a *tintype*): These are the indelible images created by master photographer Robb Kendrick, now improving the walls of the Texas State History Museum. See their Web site for special activities on this opening weekend. Exhibition: *Feb. 17-April 19. 1800 Congress, 936-8746. www.thestoryoftexas.com*.



ments based on words printed on cards held up by other dancers, then one dancer dances every movement read from a card by Dunn Hamrick. The variety of these works heightens their appeal, reminding us of the infinite directions in which dance may take us and keeping us in a constant state of surprise over which ones Dunn Hamrick and her dancers will choose.

But more than the eclecticism of the dances, it's their considered simplicity and the crispness of their execution that make this program the delight that it is. Each piece is grounded in an elementary idea that's investigated fully through the most basic and cleanest of movements, such that you get a feeling of completeness when the dancer stops, even if the dance lasted less than a minute or involved something as uncomplicated as crawling through a hole in a cardboard box. Something whole was created, and that sense of wholeness elicits in the viewer a satisfying "ahhh" – much like the kind sparked by a dazzling fireworks display – which, in a sense, these flash dances are: appearing ever so briefly, but flaring oh so brightly, bursts of illumination that captivate us and leave us wishing they lasted longer.

– Robert Faires

OPENING

GALLERY SHOAL CREEK: MILT KOBAYASHI This "Floating World" exhibition is derived from the art traditions of both Eastern and Western culture. *Feb. 15-March 10. 2905 San Gabriel, 454-6671.*

LOTUS GALLERY: A LIFE OF ART presents a survey of paintings, drawings, and other graphics by Kelly Fearing. *Through March 31. 1201-B W. Sixth, 474-1700.*

VOLITANT GALLERY: THE QUEEN OF THE PEACE An extraordinary international encounter with the wide-ranging collection of work by Lithuanian couple Svajone and Paulius Stanikas. Reception: *Fri., Feb. 16, 6-9pm. Lecture: Sat., Feb. 17, 2:30pm. Exhibition: Feb. 16-April 28. 320 Congress #100, 236-1240. www.volitant.com*.

AUSTIN GALLERIES: MANFRED RAPP Fifty paintings of Venice, Tuscany, Rome, Havana, Paris, and New Orleans. *Through March 31. 1219 W. Sixth. www.austingalleries.com*.

MASS GALLERY: POPULAR HALLUCINATIONS FOR THE HOME MASS and Refraction Arts team up to present this show, featuring the paintings of Michael Berryhill (Austin), Mira Dancy (Brooklyn), Virginia Yount (Austin), and in collaboration with writing by Karen Davidson (Austin). Here are "moments that rise from the wanderings of the mind but are steadfastly present, electrified, and waiting." Opening reception: *Sat., Feb. 17, 7-11pm. Exhibition: Through March 3. 916 Springdale. www.massgallery.org*.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: FREAKS OF NURTURE Sculptor Elaine Bradford transforms taxidermy animals into works infused with whimsy, warmth, and comfort. How? With yards of well-knitted yarn. Reception: *Thu., Feb. 22, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Feb. 22-March 31. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org*.

CLOSING

CREATIVE RESEARCH LAB: LAND ARTS 2006 EXHIBITION Recent work by students in studio art at the University of New Mexico and design at UT Austin. *Through Feb. 20. 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328.*

BUTRIDGE GALLERY @ DOUGHERTY ARTS CENTER: LOS CUATRO VIENTOS La Pena brings together the artwork of Santa Barraza, Cecilia Colome, Sam Coronado, Luis Gutierrez, and many more. *Through Feb. 20. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty*.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: RETREAT features new paintings by Theresa Marchetta. Although you can discern cavernous tourist destinations, color is the real subject of these large works. *Through Feb. 17. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org*.

STUDIO 107: RISING STARS VOL. 3 Curator Till Richter's concept for the series is to place a bet on the historical and market success of emerging artists. Artists include printmaker Adreon Henry, photographer Fernando Lafuente, and painter Alonso Rey. Closing Event: *Sat., Feb. 17, 6pm. 411 Brazos #107, 477-9092.*

D BERMAN GALLERY: ISLANDS is a vibrant show of new paintings by Christopher Schade. *Through Feb. 17. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com*.

ART PALACE: GHOST SURVIVOR OF THE FINAL PLAGUE Through the use of narrative and a lexicon of troubling and fantastical imagery, Seth Alverson challenges us to question an individual's agency in a moral landscape where time has unwound, and the logic of the universe is unraveling. *Through Feb. 17. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com*.

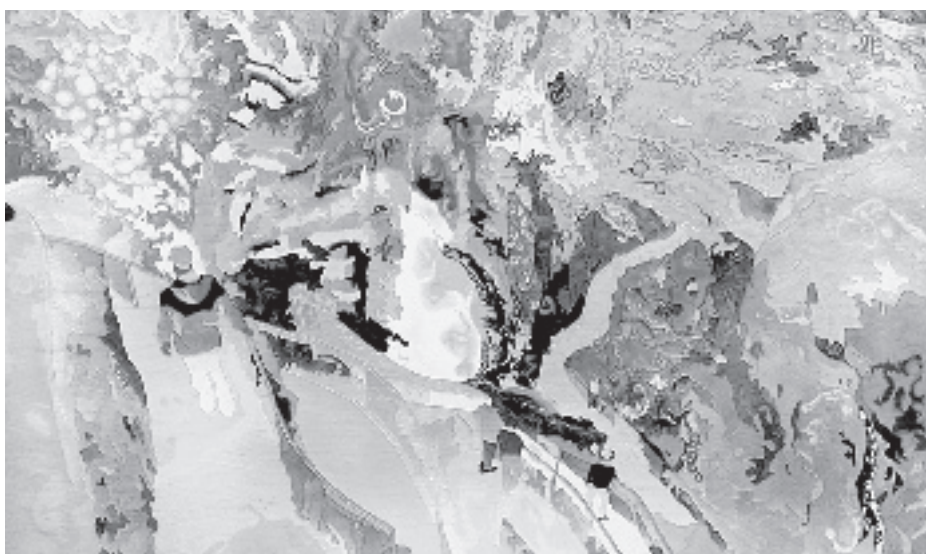
TIRU GALLERY: KATRINA BENEFIT EXHIBIT Photographs by Ben Sklar. *Through Feb. 17. 37-1 Guadalupe #103, 773-6684.*

Theresa Marchetta: Retreat

Women & Their Work, through Feb. 17

Front and center, the first painting welcomes you into the gallery with a compact yet strong and bright presence. The vivid color and black outlines make the piece look like cloisonné or stained glass. But what you're looking at isn't clear. In fact, it's quite difficult to find an image in any of the paintings. Drippy, globular shapes and puddles move down the frames, never really settling onto any ground level, except on that first painting,

where it somehow seems upside-down. About halfway through the gallery, you may begin to notice some cohesive shapes typifying the human form. Another look around, and you will find them in all but two paintings. Now your mind can funnel an interpretation on those shapes, but as you move away, it isn't possible to discern a representational image from the outlying abstract outlines. That's okay, though. The text in the gallery claims that the artist, Theresa Marchetta, is intentionally playing with abstraction vs. representation. Considering this idea and Angela Fraleigh's show at Women & Their Work this time last year, I can't help but see this body of work as a deconstruction. The paint is breaking down an image into abstraction. With a conflict similar to that in Fraleigh's paintings, Marchetta's paintings satisfy the best when the abstract elements appear to populate the image by a larger percentage. The eighth and final painting is the most harmonious in the gallery. There are sections where the paint is marbled, swirled into looking like some of the abstract shapes. Those intricate branches of color balance out the large, flat hues. Although centrally located, you easily overlook the human form by what exciting things the paint is doing.



Katy O'Connor's paintings at Volitant Gallery's recent show share painterly concerns of form and space with Christopher Schade's paintings at D Berman Gallery. "Retreat" is the antithesis to both of those shows. They used paint to construct an image that the viewer could navigate. Marchetta begins with a recognizable image but uses the paint to undermine our perceptions. Instead of using convincing hues and defined forms, the paint is vibrant with nonsensical colors defined by amoebic boundaries. Your mind gets lost trying to figure out what's in front of you.

Usually, a conclusion offers closure to your journey, whether it is narrative or visual. The title of the show and noticing the handrails in some of the paintings allows for an association to some iteration of vacationing or tourist attractions. Discovering exactly what the image is based on destroys the mind's activities, though. The wonderfully elusive lines then congeal into logical, expected contours of what is represented. Instead of revealing the source imagery and sharing in my disappointing denouement, I invite you to get lost in the fantasy of crackling colors and swimming shapes.

— Salvador Castillo

ONGOING

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. 12400 Amherst #102. 825-8577. www.eyeccontactart.com.

ART ON 5TH: THE SECRET ART OF DR. SEUSS 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos, 457-0171. www.pablotaboadastudio.com.

ARTHOUSE AT THE JONES CENTER: THE SIRENS' SONG is an exhibition, curated by Kelly Baum, about artists and one of the oldest and most powerful forms of communication: the story. Through March 4. 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.arthousetexas.org.

ATELIER 3-D The former Austin Sculpture Center hosts an open house for public viewing. Wednesdays & Thursdays, 4-10pm. 2209 Pasadena, 374-0580.

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.

AUSTIN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: LATINITAS PHOTO EXHIBIT A vibrant, expressive, and fascinating portrait of the Latina community in Austin as depicted by youth photographers from the Latinitas afterschool programs. Through Feb. 26. 201 Colorado, 472-2499. www.austinkids.org.

BLANTON: MATTHEW DAY JACKSON @ WORKSPACE Jackson makes highly idiosyncratic objects and installations that combine natural, hand-crafted, and recycled materials with imagery and allusions. Through March 25. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry made by the staff and friends of the studio. 5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770; 108 W. 43rd. www.austinbluemoon.com.

CAPITAL VISITORS CENTER: ON THE PLAINS WITH PASTELS, PENCILS, AND PAINTS Frank Reaugh captured the rugged beauty and vastness of the frontier and documented the people, landscapes, and animals of a vital period of American history.

Through May 28. 112 E. 11th, 305-8400. www.tsph.state.tx.us/tsph/spbt/history/chistory.htm.

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of an, we guess you might say, average South Austin home. Hours: Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413. www.keepaustinfoir.com.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. 6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.

DAVIS GALLERY: BILL WIMAN Gorgeous mixed-media compositions of sublime color and balance, by a master of the art. Through March 3. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929. www.davisgalleryweird.com.

WINN & WINN @ PENN FIELD Walker Winn's small, geometric, highly polished, resin-enhanced paintings and Taylor Winn's giant (up to 14 feet) canvases of pure paint will refresh you. Through Feb. 17. 3601-C S. Congress, 693-0562. www.walkerwinnart.com.

DIBONA STUDIO Here's a studio/gallery devoted exclusively to the work of Joyce DiBona, including her newest oil paintings and a sculptural tattoo series. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646.

ELISABET NEY: HOMES AND STUDIOS features an exhibition depicting six homes and studios that artist Elisabet Ney established in Portugal, Bavaria, Georgia, and Texas from 1863 to 1902. Ney's last studio-home, in Austin, is, today, the Elisabet Ney Museum, a national, state, and local historic landmark. 304 E. 44th, 458-2255. www.cl.austin.tx.us/ellisabetney.

FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY 309-B Bowie, 320-0072.

GALLERY 3: TELEPHONE is a collaborative exhibition by UT-Austin undergraduate students. The familiar children's game was used as a template to describe art production and the overlapping schedules of four studio-art students. Through Feb. 24. 2246 Guadalupe, 476-7211. www.gallery3atthecoop.com.

GRAVITY CONSTANT STUDIOS: TERRY BEUTLER New paintings by Beutler depict an autobiographical journey. 301 Chicon Ste. F, 415/254-5222.

KATHY WOMACK GALLERY Art by Kathy Womack. 411 Brazos #100. www.kwomack.com.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: WILLIAM EGGLESTON includes 13 large-scale color photographs from the Cadillac portfolio. Through March 24. 300 West Ave. #1318, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: VESSELS AND INSPIRATIONS features the diverse ceramic and sculptural metalworks of influential artist Ishmael Soto. Ceramics by Soto's workshop students will also be on display in the back gallery. Through April 1. 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.

MEXIC-ARTE: TOTALLY COOL, TOTALLY ART This teen-outreach program is funded by Austin Parks and Recreation Department. Exhibition: Through Feb. 28. 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART has an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork and craft items on display. 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.

THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA The ongoing exhibition in this intimate, quirky gallery is a perfect example of the more charming and enjoyable side of Austin's weirdness. Call for appt. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. www.mnae.org.

OKAY MOUNTAIN: NO AMERICAN TALENT 2 Here are the works of six young artists from Tokyo, Japan, whose art seems shaped by a similar underlying tension and shares a sensibility that combines humor, mystery, and an odd melancholy unique to that storied megapolis. Through Feb. 24. 1312 E. Cesar Chavez Ste. B. www.okaymountain.com.

SHORELINES GALLERY: SUE KEMP Watercolors from nature. 221 W. Second, 322-9961. www.shorelinesgalleryaustin.com.

GALLERY @ CONCORDIA: SINKS Gabel Karsten's new paintings and prints of sinks, with intimate examination of the domestic environs and identities of the sink owners. Through March 9. 3400 N. I-35 (in the Peter Center).

YARD DOG GALLERY: MANY BUFFALOES This showing of works by Eric Bellis will include images of buffalo, sheep, pigs, and cattle in a 19th century English style. Through Feb. 25. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. www.yarddog.com.

SPACES

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY is a working studio and gallery of stained & leaded glass and mosaics artwork. 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.

GUTTERKITTY STUDIOS: THE AUSTIN FIGURATIVE PROJECT a group show of figurative paintings done by some of Austin's best painters. 102 Krebs. ohlerkingpaintings@yahoo.com.

ADAMS AVENUE GALLERY: EVE LARSON Vibrant and Sensitive painted interiors, landscapes and still-life works. Exhibition: Through March 25. 5601 Adams, 453-7788.

BOOKPEOPLE: EUROPE SURREAL Color infrared pinhole photography by David Keenan. Through Feb. 27. 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

HALCYON CAFEHOUSE: AEROSAULT features work from the Urban Art Tactical Division: Nathan Nordstrom, Blake Bermel, Daniel Chiazere, Kelly Edwards, Travis Bedwell, Tim Scott. Through March 11. 218 W. Fourth, 472-9637. www.halcyonAustin.com.

LIBERTINE ART AND JEWELRY GALLERY Gregory Horndeski, known for his pipe-bomb and sexscape series, works in acrylic on wood. Through Feb. 28. 612 Brazos #100, 512/708-4800.

NORTH HILLS GALLERY: IN OTHER WORDS Mixed media collage works by Lisa Grant. Through Feb. 25. 7050 Village Center Dr., 345-1743.

ROADHOUSE RELICS is a vintage-neon gallery and studio where artist Todd Sanders creates neon signs, eye-popping carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture. 1720 S. First, 442-6366. www.roadhouserelics.com.

RUTA MAYA: SWAN SONG Paintings and prints by D.W. Burkard. Through March 31. 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

FELTON KNORRA STUDIOS: STUDIO RENTAL Two affordable artist studios available in a thriving Eastside artists' complex. 389-9776.

AVAA: STUDIO RENTAL Affordable artist studios available, central Austin. Historic building, natural light, utilities paid. Private studio: \$395 monthly; shared, \$170. www.avaaonline.org.

THE CREATIVE ARTS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN is seeking new members for 2007. Open to all levels of talent and all media. Contact Joan Lawson via e-mail or phone. 288-0574. artist@joanlawson.com.

IMAGINE ART BEGINNERS DRAWING CLASS Details: Every Sat., beginning March 3rd, 9:30-12:30pm; cost \$120 for 12 sessions. Contact Lydia at 448-1840.

MULTICULTURAL ARTISTS PARTNERSHIP CALL TO ARTISTS Deadline: March 9. Contact: map@multicultural-artists.org, cclng@consultant.com or 553-0988.

ATELIER 3-D: SEEKING PRESENTERS The studio needs working sculptors who are willing to present their art to a small, highly interested group of local sculptors and artists. Presentations: Thursdays, 2-4pm. 2209 Pasadena, 374-0580.

FLATBED: BEGINNING PHOTOGRAPHY/DARKROOM TECHNIQUES Flatbed is adding a new photo class and a darkroom open shop. Check into this class taught by Heidi Schleink, and you might fall in love with film all over again. 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328.

THE ART SCHOOL @ LAGUNA GLORIA Looking to tap into your creative side? Discover the large selection of spring classes available with the AMOA catalog online. 3809 W. 35th, 323-6380. www.amoa.org.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

THE BIRTH OF COFFEE Ah, to rival the birth of Venus. Photographs by Daniel Lorenzetti and text by Linda Rice Lorenzetti. And, yes, Ruta Maya provides free coffee and refreshments. Wed., Feb. 21, 7pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 499-7480.

JEFFERSON BASS Dr. Bill Bass and Jon Jefferson offer their latest in the Body Farm mysteries, *Flesh and Bone*, the story of Dr. Bill Brockton, a forensic anthropologist who's seen more than his share of gore. Wed., Feb. 21, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

KLRU SPARK READING SERIES at the Paramount features NPR and PBS personalities Ray Suarez and Maria Hinojosa discussing immigration, family, the nation's future, and other topics. Suarez is the author of *The Old Neighborhood: What We Lost in the Great Suburban Migration* and, most recently *The Holy Vote*. Hinojosa has written *Crews: Gang Members Talk With Maria Hinojosa* and *Raising Raul: Adventures Raising Myself and My Son*. Wed., Feb. 21, 7:30pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 475-9021. \$43.50. www.klr.org.

MELISSA 'MELICIOUS' JOULWAN elbows her way to the front and scores with *Rollergirl*. Get demonstrations on moves from some of the Rollergirls themselves, watch footage from the 2006 *Dust Devil* wherein the Texecutioners claimed the championship title, and maybe create your own Rollergirl name and persona. Tue., Feb. 20, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

AUSTIN LIARS CONTEST! Hear some of Texas' windiest storytellers compete for the title of "Biggest Liar" in this seventh annual event. Judges this year include Liz Carpenter, Austin icon and author of *Presidential Humor*; John Kelso, *Austin American-Statesman* humor columnist; Roy Minton and Chip Somerville, Austin attorneys; and David Zuniga, Buddhist monk: all folks who can surely spot a lie! Hosted by Jim Gramon, author of *Legendary Texas Storytellers*. The Lege is in, so expect some in the audience poking fun at the amateurs. Sat., Feb. 17, 2pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

DRUZELLE CEDERQUIST reveals *The Story of Baha'u'llah*, which is the history of the Baha'i faith, a religion only 160 years old. Sat., Feb. 17, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

GARLAND GREGORY presents his *When Nigger Became Chic*, an insightful book designed to further disarm the historical power of "nigger" as a racial epithet. A portion of the proceeds go to Friends of the Austin Public Library. Refreshments provided, too. Sat., Feb. 17, 2:30pm. University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

ALTERNATIVE RADIO presents the late Austin-based columnist Molly Ivins talking about her book *Bushwacked: Life in George W. Bush's America*. David Barsamian hosts. Fri., Feb. 16, 2pm. 91.7 KOOP-FM. www.koop.org.

UT SCHOOL OF LAW'S THURGOOD MARSHALL LEGAL SOCIETY hosts its annual poetry and spoken-word event. It's an opportunity for students to experience jazz, soul, and spoken word in a communal setting. The Thurgood Marshall Legal Society is UT Law's Chapter of the National Black Law Students Association. Through Feb. 15, 8pm. Texas Union, the Showroom, Room 2.208.

DENIS JOHNSON The author of *Jesus' Son*, *Angels*, *Already Dead*, and *The Name of the World* comes to Texas State University to read his works. His poems are collected in *The Throne of the Third Heaven of the Nations Millennium General Assembly*. Highly recommended 'cause Joe Hoppe says so! Thu., Feb. 15, 3:30pm. TSU-San Marcos, Southwestern Writer's Collection, Alkek Library.

WORD/JAZZ with the Lowstars and Poet Posse, featuring Chandra Washington, Thom the World Poet, and Ivanho. Jazz and poetry. Move it. Thu., Feb. 15, 6pm. Cafe Mundi, 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634. www.cafemundi.com.

CARVER HONORS ITS PIONEERS Carver honors local artists and community leaders (past and present) by hosting an evening of African and African-American Art, literature, and pictures of those who have supported the efforts and legacy of the branch throughout the years. Thu., Feb. 15, 6-8pm. Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 974-1010. www.ci.austin.tx.us/library.

TEXAS NAFAS presents Brian Turner, an American soldier who became a poet. This was taped by Farid Mohammadi at the Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival in October 2006. Saturdays in February, 10pm. Cable Channel 16.

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

AUSTIN WRITERS WORKSHOP This twice-monthly group of screenwriters is open to new members to read, discuss, and critique one another's work. Mon., Feb. 19, 6:30pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

DAYTIME BOOK GROUP regards its copies of *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro. Wed., Feb. 21, 10am. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

AUSTIN WRITERGRRRLS This month the Writers' League of Texas hosts a panel discussion with contributors to *Grrl Talk*, a collection of poems and essays from Austin WriterGrrls. The first half-

hour is social and networking time. Thu., Feb. 15, 7pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652. Free.

CONTEMPORARY FICTION BOOK GROUP counts *Five Fortunes* by Beth Gutcheon. Wed., Feb. 21, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

THE INTIMACIES GROUP Join Good Life columnist Karen Kreps for a free and open discussion of relationships, life, and love. Wed., Feb. 21, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

LUDICROUS SPEED BOOK CLUB thunders up a *Storm Front* by Jim Butcher. We be dorkdom, hosted by Joel and Tommy. Mon., Feb. 19, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

TERRY MCAULIFFE proclaims *What a Party!* With book blurbs from Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter, McAuliffe's take on who's who in the Democratic party also looks at his career that led to him becoming the Democratic National Committee chairman. Mon., Feb. 19, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

MYSTERY BOOK GROUP The newest and hottest titles in the mystery genre. Tue., Feb. 20, 7:30pm. Borders South, 4477 S. Lamar #600, 891-8974.

CONTEMPORARY LIT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP Monthly book discussion of contemporary-lit titles. Contact Sara for title. Wed., Feb. 21, 7:30pm. Borders South, 4477 S. Lamar #600, 891-8974. skentonkey@aol.com.

AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY presents Dr. Ronald J. Jorgenson, a poet since 1969. Widely published under his pseudonym, Dr. Charles A. Stone, he currently serves on the faculty of the Austin Community College. Sat., Feb. 17, 10:15am-12:30pm. Howson Library, 2500 Exposition, 472-3584. www.austinpoetrysociety.org.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

ART FIX: PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP In celebration of the centennial of James A. Michener, you can translate works of art in the Blanton's collection into a compelling drama with acclaimed playwright **C. Denby Swanson**. Tickets available at the Visitor Services Desk one hour before program begins. Thu., Feb. 15, 6pm. Blanton Museum of Art, MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.

DR. CHARLES KIMBALL lectures on "Understanding Islam Today: What in the World is Going On ... and Why?." Kimball is the author of *When Religion Becomes Evil*, which looks at religious violence in all its forms and asks for a return to tolerance and away from the demonization currently in vogue among certain quarters of the ranks of the righteous. Sat., Feb. 17, 6pm. First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity, 476-2625.

BREATHING LIFE INTO WORDS is a series of free writing workshops. Next up is Tim Tingle on "Putting Stories into Words." Thu., Feb. 22, 7-8:30pm. Hampton Library, 5125 Convict Hill, 892-6680.

★ **LAWRENCE LESSIG** The author of *Free Culture*, *The Future of Ideas*, and *Code and Other Laws of Cyberspace* – and of course he's also the chair of the Creative Commons project and on the board of the Electronic Frontier Foundation – speaks at a special First-Year Forum event. All you code monkeys, put down the Fritos and Tab and pay some rapt heed here. Tue., Feb. 20, 7pm. Hogg Auditorium, West 24th & Whitis, 471-1444.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

THE NORI STORY: \$100 Cafe Armageddon is running this contest to place a short story in their forthcoming *Minerva's Wreck*, a big literary and arts anthology featuring some of the best their host city has to offer. But this contest is open to the whole damned world. Length: 1,500 words maximum. Subject: anything, as long as nori is featured somewhere in the story, whether as a pivotal device or a small but distinct part of the background. Prize: \$100 and two copies of *Minerva's Wreck*. Submit via snail mail only; if you want your manuscript returned, include an SASE. Send to: Cafe Armageddon, PO Box 4942, Austin, TX 78765. Deadline: June 22, 2007.

THE KHABELE SCHOOL SHORT STORY CONTEST First prize is \$250 and publication in their literary review and Web site. 3,500 words max, no erotica. SASE for manuscript returns and \$5 entry fee. Mail to: Short Story Contest, 801 Rio Grande, Austin, TX 78701. Deadline: April 15.

Forensic anthropologist Bill Bass and journalist Jon Jefferson strip the tarp from their latest flesh-made words at BookPeople on Wednesday.

OPEN MICS

CAFFEINATED POETRY is open to musicians and poets. Hosted by Thom the World Poet. Every Wednesday, except the first Wednesday when they all go to Vinny's, 7-9pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry captains the crew that has all the best of stand-up, performance art, theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one electrifying evening. And the 1!2!3!4! Slam has joined the holy fracas. Four times the excitement for the same step through that door. \$100 in prizes every week; open mic precedes the main event. Wednesdays, 8pm. Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091. www.austinslam.com.

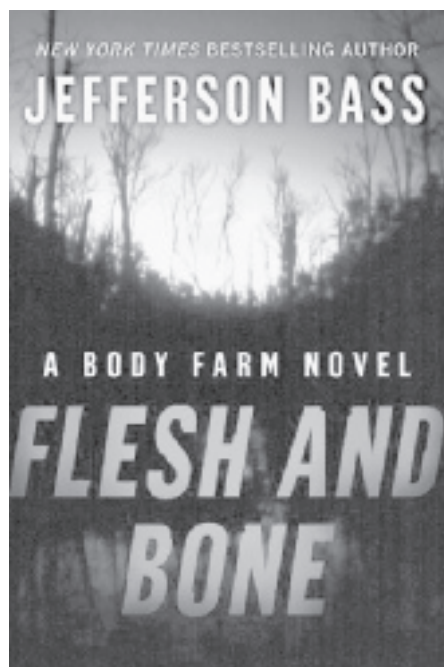
MONDAY NIGHT POETRY is hosted by Justin Parker. Mondays, 8-10pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. www.genuinejoe.com.

HIDEOUT MIC is still an open-universe event with your newest host, Frank. Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets' Pantry). www.thehideout.org.

THE POETRY KARAOKE ORCHESTRA backs your poetry on the porch, with hosts Ivanho and Chris the Future. Bring canned foods for the Poets Pantry. Tuesdays, 8-10pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.

RUTA MAYA is one of the longest-running open mics in Austin. Hosted by Aaron and maslow. Donations accepted for Poets Pantry. Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.freespeechchart.com.

UNPROTECTED POETRY Spoken word from the House of Soul, with free refreshments. Thursdays, 7pm. Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th, 391-0174. \$5 (after 8pm; free for performing poets). poetryatx@yahoo.com.



MORE POETRY! & at the end of all these days may i walk until my legs turn to blue water lungs blooming white lotus heart a red stamen sun & soul a clear wind dancing in her gold hair. Namaste. Vaya con dios.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

Lord, grant me a plea for Clementines

Round and juicy Almost out of season The empty space for their open boxes A toothless grin Leering as I pass

– Susan Stockton, from "Monkey Business"

POSTER EXHIBIT

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Tears of the Black Tiger

D: Wisit Sasanatieng; with Chartchai Ngamsan, Suwinit Panjamawat, Stella Malucchi, Supakorn Kitsuwon, Arawat Ruangvuth. (NR, 113 min.)

If you're reading these listings in search of a movie that's really different, let me tell you: *Tears of the Black Tiger* is really different. The



first Thai film to be shown at Cannes, where it killed in 2001 – now it's playing the AFS @ Dobie series – *Tears* is part melodrama and part spaghetti western, as if Sirk and Peckinpah fell into a blender in Hong Kong. Out pour tear-soaked Polaroids, giant exploding squibs and blown-up heads, tearful Asian songbird ballads, homoerotic outlaw bonding, swish-pans and wacky intertitles, a Bronsonesque bad guy, bullet cams, questions of honor (“Kong! I’ll kill your whole clan!”), a crashed wedding, and agonizing twists of fate. Director Sasanatieng goes big in every way. When people get shot, they don’t just fall down. They fall onto something – a stack of logs, which scatter dramatically. A disembodied and still-smoldering arm lands next to one character, who looks at it dispassionately. And when it's time to meet Rumpoey (Malucchi), the “high-born” governor's daughter from Supanburi province, Sasanatieng has her walk into a beautifully composed medium shot of a rain-soaked glade, unrelentingly green, in a lurid fuchsia shirtwaist fluffed with crinoline, her lips impossibly pink – a flower more beautiful than those found in nature. To end the scene, Sasanatieng swoops dramatically up into



the sky on a crane, like Mizoguchi, leaving Rumpoey to twist in agony below for loving Dum (Ngamsan), the dorky but upright and woodenly handsome neighbor boy of her youth, who has grown up to be the Black Tiger, feared hired gun of a local thug. Despite its layers of references and patina of kitsch, the movie is sincere at its core, inspiring indulgence of its tinted-sepia flashbacks of childhood meet cutes and its over-the-top, mustache-twirling rival (Kitsuwon). If *Tears* is indeed too weird to take America by storm – Miramax bought the film after Cannes and shelved it until it is now being released by Magnolia – it should neither be considered a cult item, approachable only to film nerds (though they will appreciate it best). With its broad strokes and Saturday-matinee enthusiasm, it's a welcome departure from February burnout and Eddie Murphy's fat suit. **AFS@Dobie** – *Marrit Ingman* ★★ ★★ Dobie

New Reviews

ACADEMY AWARD-NOMINATED ANIMATED SHORTS 2006

D: Various. (NR, 77 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. The distributor only made a portion of the five nominees in this category available in advance to the press. Included were the Canadian/Norwegian co-production “The Danish Poet,” a charming fable directed by Torill Kove and narrated by Liv Ullmann, that's also full of intranational Scandinavian digs. “The Little Matchgirl” is technically stunning Disney-produced animation that was made for a *Fantasia* sequel that never coalesced. “Maestro” by Hungarian Géza M. Tóth is a reality-based fantasy that takes place in front of a dressing-room mirror. The other two nominees are American-made: “No Time for Nuts” by Chris Renaud and Michael Thurmeier and “Lifted” by Gary Rydstrom. The program will be filled out with an assortment of other worthy animated selections. – *Marjorie Baumgarten* Dobie

★ ACADEMY AWARD-NOMINATED LIVE ACTION SHORTS 2006

D: Various. (NR, 99 min.)

Few surveys of the 2006 feature film-making world have failed to notice the ascendancy of Mexican-born filmmakers (Alejandro González Iñárritu, Guillermo del Toro, Alfonso Cuarón) into the international spotlight. A similar case might be made for Spanish directors in the category of live-

action shorts: Two of the five shorts nominated for 2006 Oscars hail from Spain. “One Too Many” by Borja Cobeaga is an amusing little story about what happens when a woman leaves home abruptly and her husband and son are left to their own devices. Pigs in both the housekeeping and political-enlightenment senses of the word, the men resort to reclaiming Granny from the nursing home to fulfill their needs, but the old woman has an unexpected surprise up her sleeve. In fact, all the films in this package, except for the other Spanish film “Binta and the Great Idea,” are mordant tales capped by tables-turned endings reflective of the great tradition of short storytelling. “Binta,” although helmed by Spaniards Javier Fesser and Luis Manso was filmed in Senegal in collaboration with UNICEF and champions the necessity of universal education for both sexes. The film manages a haunting aesthetic bridge between naive primitivism and modernist self-awareness, although its universal understanding is slightly impeded by the undefined use of an essential Wolof slang word. “West Bank Story” by Ari Sandel is the only U.S. entry here and it's a doozy. A full-scale musical takeoff on *West Side Story*, the film spotlights the rivalry between two neighboring fast food joints: the Kosher King and the Hummus Hut. Employees and owners finger-snap their way through West Bank warrens Sharks-and-Jets style. A Hummus Hut employee of the month and an Israeli soldier play the star-crossed lovers. It's all very funny and silly and deadly pertinent. Australian helmers Peter Templeman and Stuart Parkyn are respon-

sible for “The Saviour,” a droll story about a door-to-door Christian evangelist who is in love with a married woman on his route. This film and the Hungarian “Helmer & Son” by Søren Pilmark and Kim Magnusson of Denmark both expertly make use of surprise endings. “Helmer & Son” is the most unpredictable film of the lot in its detail of what happens when a son is called to a rest home to coax his father from the closet where he has locked himself. In all, it's a strong collection of work, and it's rare to see this program of films in Austin prior to the awarding of the Oscars in 10 days. You now have the chance to be one up on everyone at your Oscar party in a category that everyone generally cedes for lack of knowledge. – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★ Dobie

BREACH

D: Billy Ray; with Chris Cooper, Ryan Phillippe, Laura Linney, Caroline Dhavernas, Gary Cole, Dennis Haysbert, Kathleen Quinlan, Bruce Davison, Jonathan Watton. (PG-13, 110 min.)

Is there an actor working today who looks more spent than Chris Cooper? With his rumpled demeanor and those giant bags under his eyes, the man looks perpetually tired. Tired of his lot in life, tired of all those slings and arrows, but most of all, tired of knowing he's smarter than everyone else in the room. His is the exhaustion of contempt. A trait that serves him perfectly in *Breach*, in which he plays Robert Hanssen, the brilliant real-life FBI spy whose exploits as a double agent during and after the Cold War led to the deaths of as many as 50 government agents and

sources. It's the mole story to end all mole stories. (In the film, a special agent played by Linney calls Hanssen the “worst spy in American history.” This is a misnomer, of course; if he were truly the worst spy in American history, he would have spent his years at the FBI forgetting his code names and spilling coffee all over the agency's most expensive gadgets. Let's go with the “most sinister spy in American history,” for clarity's sake.) As Hanssen's foil we get Eric O'Neill (the lightweight Phillippe), an ambitious FBI upstart assigned the task of covertly sounding out Hanssen and bringing back evidence that proves he's as treasonous as everyone says he is. At first, O'Neill is put out by the assignment, judging it to be beneath his talents, but as the severity of Hanssen's crimes becomes clearer, and as Hanssen proves himself to be rather clever quarry, the callow operative sinks deeper and deeper into his work, putting both his life and his marriage in jeopardy in the process. If there's one thing I've learned from movies recently it's that it's no fun being the wife of a spy. Witness Angelina Jolie in *The Good Shepherd* and now Dhavernas in *Breach*: The role of an agent's wife is a long-suffering one, full of cold dinners, wringing hands, and a total lack of understanding as to what your husband really does when he goes off to work in the morning. Someone needs to make a movie about them. I'd love to know if they spend their entire day biting their nails while staring off into the middle distance in unlit rooms or if they save that move for when their husbands walk through the front door hours, even days, late, without so much as a phone call. (Jim Jarmusch, that great minimalist, would have a ball with such a movie. Inasmuch as Jim Jarmusch is capable of having a ball.) These days it's going to take a pretty exceptional political thriller to top our political reality for sheer suspense and treachery, and though director Ray (*Shattered Glass*) provides a few choice moments of psychological tension, nothing in his film can hope to outpace the anxiety caused by the appearance of former Attorney General John Ashcroft in its opening scene. Terrorwise, it's all downhill from there.

– *Josh Rosenblatt* ★★ ★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA

D: Gabor Csupo; with Josh Hutcherson, AnnaSophia Robb, Zooey Deschanel. (PG, 95 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Based on the Newberry Medal-winning novel by Katherine Paterson, the film tells the story of two troubled adolescents who abandon all worries in the imaginary world of Terabithia. The film comes from the same Walden Media group responsible for *Charlotte's Web* and *The Chronicles of Narnia*. No screenings for local press were held in advance. – *Marjorie Baumgarten* Alamo Drafthouse South, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

DADDY'S LITTLE GIRLS

D: Tyler Perry; with Gabrielle Union, Idris Elba, Louis Gossett Jr., Tasha Smith, Gary Anthony Sturgis, Tracee Ellis Ross, Malinda Williams. (PG-13, 95 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. The auteur of *Diary of a Mad Black Woman* and *Madea's Family Reunion* merely writes and directs this new offering in which he does not appear as his drag creation, Madea. Union plays a successful lawyer who falls for a mechanic with three kids who become the subject of a custody battle. No screenings for local press were held in advance. — *Marjorie Baumgarten*
Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

EKLAVYA: THE ROYAL GUARD

D: Vidhu Vinod Chopra; with Amitabh Bachchan, Sanjay Dutt, Saif Ali Khan, Vidya Balan. (NR, 105 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. A stellar cast stars in this contemporary Bollywood film about the guardian of a dynastic legacy. No screenings for local press were held in advance. — *Marjorie Baumgarten*
Tinseltown South

FACTORY GIRL

D: George Hickenlooper; with Sienna Miller, Guy Pearce, Hayden Christensen. (R, 87 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Miller plays Edie Sedgwick, the poor little rich girl who captured the attention of Andy Warhol and all the rest of us in the 1960s. No screenings for local press were held in advance. — *Marjorie Baumgarten*
Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Dobie, Metropolitan

GHOST RIDER

D: Mark Steven Johnson; with Nicolas Cage, Eva Mendes, Wes Bentley, Peter Fonda. (PG-13, 110 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. This Marvel Comics superhero is a bounty hunter of rogue demons. Long ago, as a motorcycle stunt rider, Johnny Blaze (Cage) made a deal with the devil, and now the devil wants his due. No screenings for local press were held in advance. — *Marjorie Baumgarten*
Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

MUSIC AND LYRICS

D: Marc Lawrence; with Hugh Grant, Drew Barrymore, Haley Bennett, Brad Garrett, Kristen Johnston, Campbell Scott. (PG-13, 96 min.)

If there's one thing you can be sure about after watching *Music and Lyrics*, it's that Hugh Grant definitely waxes his chest. The crown prince of romantic comedies cuts his shirt deeply to the navel in this newest addition to the pantheon of entertaining but inconsequential Hollywood pandering. Grant plays Alex, a former member of the fictional Eighties band Pop!, a thinly veiled Wham! homage. These days Alex's fan base is relegated to county fairs and amusement parks. But thanks to his nostalgia cachet, Alex is asked to write a song for the latest Britney-esque sensation, Cora Corman (newcomer Bennett). With only days to generate a hit, Alex enlists the lyrical help of his quirky new plant lady, Sophie (Barrymore). *Music and Lyrics* obediently follows the rules of a romantic comedy, and because these rules were laid out by years of masterful craftsmanship (Preston Sturges and Frank Capra,

Openings

Academy Award-Nominated
Animated Shorts 2006 (NR)

Academy Award-Nominated Live
Action Shorts 2006 (NR)

Breach (PG-13)

Bridge to Terabithia (PG)

Eklavya: The Royal Guard (NR)

Factory Girl (R)

Ghost Rider (PG-13)

Tears of the Black Tiger (NR)

Ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

🔥 La bomba

anyone?), there's power in the pedigree. But writer/director Lawrence (*Two Weeks Notice*) colors neatly within the lines and produces a film that's as safe and comforting as it is uninspiring and predictable. The opening credit sequence, consisting of Pop!'s music video, is by far the funniest part of the film. But unfortunately, the rest of the movie doesn't follow suit. With excessive comedy mined from simply having Grant repeat the words "Knott's Berry Farm," I couldn't help but wish for more. Though Grant and Barrymore both perform adequately, the rest of the cast includes Johnston (TV's *3rd Rock From the Sun*), who mugs through weird, unfunny jokes that involve the emotional abuse her husband, and Scott (*The Secret Lives of Dentists*) who makes a strange appearance in a subplot that was a lot more interesting the first time I saw it on *Six Feet Under*. Garrett (*Everybody Loves Raymond*) is endearing as Alex's agent, and Bennett is frighteningly spot-on as Cora. Her screwy "spiritual" interpretations involve an enormous Buddha, rows of scantily clad "monk" dancers, and the even more scantily clad Cora as the object of their adoration. The result is either a brilliant bit of idol worship satire or a sign of the apocalypse. Despite the sad fact that audiences will surely settle for this watered-down, kind-of-funny attempt at the genre, I couldn't help but enjoy the ride a little. I mean, who doesn't want some love and romance, especially if it's indulgent and totally unbelievable? — *Toddy Burton*
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

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For the Love of Dolly: Wed, 7:00pm
Terror Thursday: Humanoids From the Deep: Thu (2/22), 12mid
Music Monday: Liquid Vinyl: Mon, 9:45pm
Love Bites: The 80s Power Ballads Sing-Along: Thu (2/22), 9:45pm
Moulin Rouge Sing-Along: Sun, 7:00pm; Thu (2/22), 7:00pm
Open Screen Night: Wed, 9:45pm
Polyester: Tue, 9:45pm
Runners High: Sat, 1:30pm
Sounds Seen: The VI Competition: Sun, 9:45pm
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles II: The Secret of the Ooze: Tue, 7:00pm
Master Pancake: Titanic (abbreviated): Fri-Sat, 7.00, 10:00

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Catch and Release: 12:10, 3:15, 7:30, 10:30
***Daddy's Little Girls:** 12:05, 3:00, 7:05, 10:10
The Departed: 11:55am, 3:25, 7:00, 10:40pm
Dreamgirls: 12:00, 3:30, 7:10, 10:35
***The Messengers:** Fri-Sun, 12:45, 3:35, 7:15, 10:00; Mon, 3:35, 7:15, 10:00; Tue, 12:45, 3:35, 7:15, 10:00; Wed, 12:45, 3:35, 10:00; Thu (2/22), 12:45, 3:35, 7:15, 10:00
Smokin' Aces: 12:30, 3:10, 7:35, 10:50

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***Breach:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15pm; Mon, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15; Tue, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15pm; Wed-Thu (2/22), 4:30, 7:30, 10:15
***Bridge to Terabithia:** Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:25pm; Mon, 4:00, 7:00, 9:25; Tue, 11:05am, 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:25pm; Wed-Thu (2/22), 4:00, 7:00, 9:25
Children of Men: Fri-Sun, 11:40am, 2:05, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20; Tue, 11:20am, 2:05, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20pm; Wed-Thu (2/22), 4:50, 7:40, 10:20
AFS: Iron Island: Tue, 7:00pm
Notes on a Scandal: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35pm; Mon, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35; Tue, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:10, 9:35pm; Wed-Thu (2/22), 4:10, 7:10, 9:35
Pan's Labyrinth: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25pm; Mon, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25; Tue, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25pm; Wed-Thu (2/22), 4:35, 7:35, 10:25
Volver: Fri-Sun, 1:00, 3:45, 7:05, 9:50; Mon, 3:45, 7:05, 9:50; Tue, 1:00, 3:45, 7:05, 9:50; Wed-Thu (2/22), 3:45, 7:05, 9:50

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320.
Tuesday matinee Baby Day shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. AFS events are all ages.

TV Party: 24: Mon, 9:45pm
TV Party: Battlestar Galactica: Sun, 9:45pm
Because I Said So: Fri-Sat, 1:35, 4:20, 7:30, 10:00; Sun, 1:35, 4:20, 7:30; Mon, 4:20, 7:30; Tue, 1:35, 4:20, 7:30, 10:00; Wed, 4:20, 7:30; Thu (2/22), 4:20, 10:00
Darkon: Tue, 10:00pm; Thu (2/22), 10:00pm
***Ghost Rider:** Fri-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45; Mon, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45; Tue, 1:20, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45; Wed-Thu (2/22), 4:20, 7:05, 9:45
TV Party: Lost: Wed, 9:45pm
Love Bites: The 80s Power Ballads Sing-Along: Fri, 12mid
***Music and Lyrics:** Fri-Sun, 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30; Mon, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30; Tue, 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30; Wed-Thu (2/22), 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
TV Party: The OC: Thu (2/22), 7:00pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Smokin' Aces: Fri-Sun, 1:25, 4:15, 7:35, 10:15; Mon, 4:15, 7:35, 10:15; Tue, 12:45, 3:35, 7:15, 10:00; Wed-Thu (2/22), 4:15, 7:35, 10:15
Spike & Mike's Sick & Twisted Festival of Animation 2007: Fri-Sat, 12mid

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays.

Factory Girl: 12:20, 2:30, 5:20, 7:50, 10:00
The Last King of Scotland: 11:40am, 3:00, 7:00, 9:55pm
Notes on a Scandal: 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 9:50
The Painted Veil: 12:00, 3:15, 6:40, 9:45
Pan's Labyrinth: 11:40am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10pm
The Queen: 11:50am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40pm
Venus: 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20
Volver: 12:45, 3:30, 6:50, 9:30

BARTON CREEK CINEMA (CINEMARK) Highway 360 and Walsh
Tartton, 306-1688. Discounts daily before 6pm.

Because I Said So: Fri, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:45
Factory Girl: Fri, 1:55, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 1:55, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:55, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50
Ghost Rider: Fri, 1:35, 2:05, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 10:55am, 11:25, 1:35, 2:05, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:35, 2:05, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:05
Hannibal Rising: Fri, 3:00, 3:45, 6:25, 7:05, 9:20, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 12:30, 3:00, 3:45, 6:25, 7:05, 9:20, 10:00; Mon-Thu (2/22), 3:00, 3:45, 6:25, 7:05, 9:20, 10:00
The Last King of Scotland: Fri, 3:30, 6:45, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 9:30; Mon, 3:30, 6:45, 9:30; Tue, 3:30, 9:30; Wed-Thu (2/22), 3:30, 6:45, 9:30
Little Children: Fri, 2:50, 6:15, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:50, 6:15, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 2:50, 6:15, 9:35
Pan's Labyrinth: Fri, 2:00, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 2:00, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15
The Queen: Fri, 1:45, 4:25, 6:55, 9:25; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:25, 6:55, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:45, 4:25, 6:55, 9:25

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190. Matinee discounts before 6pm Friday through Sunday and during holidays. Matinee discounts before 6pm on weekdays.

Blood Diamond: Fri-Mon, 12:40, 3:45, 7:00, 10:05; Tue, 3:45, 7:00, 10:05; Wed, 3:45, 10:05; Thu (2/22), 3:45, 7:00, 10:05
***Breach:** Fri-Mon, 11:50am, 2:20, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10pm; Tue-Thu (2/22), 2:20, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
***Bridge to Terabithia:** Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 11:10, 12:30, 1:35, 2:45, 3:50, 5:00, 6:05, 7:15, 8:15, 9:30, 10:30pm; Mon, 11:10am, 12:30, 1:35, 2:45, 3:50, 6:05, 7:15, 8:15, 9:30, 10:30pm; Tue-Thu (2/22), 1:35, 2:45, 3:50, 5:00, 6:05, 7:15, 8:15, 9:30, 10:30
***Daddy's Little Girls:** Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 1:40, 3:55, 6:10, 8:25, 10:40pm; Mon, 11:20am, 1:40, 3:55, 6:10, 8:25, 10:40pm; Tue-Thu (2/22), 1:40, 3:55, 6:10, 8:25, 10:35
Letters From Iwo Jima: Fri-Sun, 10:05am, 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:15
The Messengers: Fri-Sat, 11:05am, 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 8:00, 10:20pm; Sun, 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 8:00, 10:20; Mon, 11:05am, 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 8:00, 10:20pm; Tue-Thu (2/22), 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 8:00, 10:20
***Music and Lyrics:** Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 12:15, 1:10, 2:30, 3:30, 5:05, 6:15, 7:30, 8:30, 9:50, 10:45pm; Mon, 11:00am, 12:15, 1:10, 2:30, 3:30, 5:05, 6:15, 7:30, 8:30, 9:50, 10:40pm; Tue-Thu (2/22), 1:10, 2:30, 3:30, 5:05, 6:15, 7:30, 8:30, 9:50, 10:40
Night at the Museum: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25pm; Mon, 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25; Tue-Thu (2/22), 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25
***Norbit:** Fri-Sun, 10:25am, 12:00, 1:00, 2:25, 3:25, 4:45, 5:50, 7:20, 8:20, 9:45, 10:45pm; Mon, 12:00, 1:00, 2:25, 3:25, 4:45, 5:50, 7:20, 8:20, 9:45, 10:40; Tue-Thu (2/22), 1:00, 2:25, 3:25, 4:45, 5:50, 7:20, 8:20, 9:45, 10:40
Notes on a Scandal: Fri-Sat, 10:40am, 12:50, 3:05, 5:15, 7:25, 9:40pm; Sun-Mon, 12:50, 3:05, 5:15, 7:25, 9:40; Tue-Thu (2/22), 3:05, 5:15, 7:25, 9:40
Smokin' Aces: Fri-Sat, 12:25, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:40; Sun, 12:30, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:40; Mon, 12:25, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:35; Tue-Thu (2/22), 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:35

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.
Because I Said So: Fri, 1:20, 3:50, 6:50, 9:25; Sat-Sun, 10:35am, 1:20, 3:50, 6:50, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:20, 3:50, 6:50, 9:25
***Breach:** Fri, 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10
***Bridge to Terabithia:** Fri, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 12:20, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:15
Catch and Release: Fri, 3:55, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 10:25am, 3:55, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 3:55, 9:40
***Daddy's Little Girls:** Fri, 1:45, 4:10, 7:05, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:45, 4:10, 7:05, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:45, 4:10, 7:05, 9:30
***Ghost Rider:** Fri, 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 10:10am, 10:45, 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:20
***Hannibal Rising:** Fri, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35
The Messengers: Fri, 1:50, 4:25, 7:25, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:50, 4:25, 7:25, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:50, 4:25, 7:25, 9:55
***Music and Lyrics:** Fri, 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50
Night at the Museum: Fri, 12:45, 3:45, 6:40, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 10:05am, 12:45, 3:45, 6:40, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 12:45, 3:45, 6:40, 9:20
***Norbit:** Fri, 1:15, 2:00, 4:15, 4:45, 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 10:15am, 11:00, 1:15, 2:00, 4:15, 4:45, 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:15, 2:00, 4:15, 4:45, 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 10:25
The Pursuit of Happiness: 1:05, 6:45
Smokin' Aces: Fri, 2:15, 4:50, 7:55, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:55, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 2:15, 4:50, 7:55, 10:30

DOBBIE THEATRE 2025 Guadalupe (Dobbie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.
Academy Award-Nominated Animated Shorts 2006: Fri-Mon, 1:10, 7:30; Tue-Thu (2/22), 7:30pm
Academy Award-Nominated Live Action Shorts 2006: Sat-Mon, 4:10, 9:30; Tue-Thu (2/22), 9:30pm
Factory Girl: Fri, 1:30, 7:20, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00; Tue, 7:20, 10:00; Wed, 10:00pm; Thu (2/22), 7:20, 10:00
Pan's Labyrinth: Fri, 1:00, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Mon, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50; Tue-Thu (2/22), 7:00, 9:50
Tears of the Black Tiger: Fri, 1:20, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40; Mon-Thu (2/22), 7:10, 9:40

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305. No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult.

Because I Said So: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30, 11:50; Sun-Thu (2/22), 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
Bridge to Terabithia (in DLP digital): Fri-Sat, 11:05am, 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05, 11:05pm; Sun-Thu (2/22), 11:05am, 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05pm
Daddy's Little Girls (in DLP digital): Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:20, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40, 11:50pm; Sun-Thu (2/22), 11:00am, 1:00, 3:20, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40pm
Ghost Rider (in DLP digital): Fri-Sat, 12:00, 12:30, 2:25, 2:55, 4:50, 5:20, 7:15, 7:45, 9:40, 10:10; Sun-Thu (2/22), 12:00, 12:30, 2:25, 2:55, 4:50, 5:20, 7:15, 7:45, 9:40, 10:10
Hannibal Rising: 11:40am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55pm
The Messengers: Fri-Sat, 11:50am, 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50, 11:50pm; Sun-Thu (2/22), 11:50am, 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50pm
Music and Lyrics (in DLP digital): Fri-Sat, 11:55am, 1:10, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20, 11:20pm; Sun-Thu (2/22), 11:55am, 1:10, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20pm
Night at the Museum: 12:30pm
Norbit: Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 1:15, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:50, 12mid; Sun-Thu (2/22), 11:15am, 1:15, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:50pm
Smokin' Aces: 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:50

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.
Because I Said So: Fri, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35; Sat, 11:45am, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35pm; Sun, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05; Mon, 2:15, 4:40, 9:35; Tue-Thu (2/22), 11:45am, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35pm
Because I Said So (open captioned): Fri, 11:45am; Sat, 2:15pm; Sun, 11:45am, 9:35pm; Mon, 11:45am, 9:35pm
Breach: 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:55, 10:30
***Bridge to Terabithia:** 12:00, 12:30, 2:30, 3:00, 4:55, 5:25, 7:20, 7:50, 9:45, 10:15
Daddy's Little Girls: 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:25, 9:50
Dreamgirls: 12:35, 3:30, 6:50, 10:05
***Ghost Rider:** 11:50am, 12:50, 2:25, 3:40, 5:00, 7:15, 7:45, 10:10, 10:25pm
Hannibal Rising: 12:40, 3:25, 7:30, 10:20
Letters From Iwo Jima: 11:55am, 3:15, 6:40, 9:55pm
Music and Lyrics: 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
Night at the Museum: 12:20, 3:05, 6:55, 9:25
Norbit: Fri-Mon, 11:55am, 12:25, 2:20, 2:50, 4:45, 5:20, 7:10, 8:00, 9:40, 10:35pm; Tue, 11:55am, 12:25, 2:50, 4:45, 7:10, 10:35pm; Wed, 12:25, 2:20, 2:50, 4:45, 5:20, 8:00, 9:40, 10:35; Thu (2/22), 11:55am, 12:25, 2:50, 4:45, 5:20, 7:10, 8:00, 10:35pm
Norbit (open captioned): Tue, 2:20, 9:40; Wed, 11:55am, 7:10pm; Thu (2/22), 2:20, 9:40
Smokin' Aces: 12:55, 3:45, 7:10, 9:40

IMAX THEATRE Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX.
Deep Sea 3D: Fri-Sat, 1:00, 7:00, 9:00; Sun-Thu (2/22), 1:00, 7:00
Hurricane on the Bayou: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 2:00, 4:40, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00pm; Sun, 2:00, 4:40, 6:00, 8:00; Mon-Thu (2/22), 11:00am, 2:00, 4:40, 6:00, 8:00pm
Ride Around the World: A Cowboy Adventure: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 3:00; Sun, 3:00pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 12:00, 3:00
Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 5:00pm; Sun, 5:00pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 10:00am, 5:00pm

LAKELINE STARPORT Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday.

Because I Said So: 12:20, 2:50, 5:50, 8:00, 10:20
***Bridge to Terabithia:** 12:10, 2:40, 5:20, 7:40, 10:25
***Ghost Rider:** 11:50am, 1:00, 2:30, 4:10, 5:10, 7:00, 7:50, 9:55, 10:30pm
Hannibal Rising: 12:50, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40
Music and Lyrics: 12:00, 2:20, 5:00, 7:20, 10:00
Night at the Museum: 12:30, 3:10, 7:10, 9:45
Norbit: 11:40am, 12:40, 2:10, 3:00, 4:40, 6:45, 7:30, 9:35, 10:15pm

METROPOLITAN South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.
Breach: 11:45am, 2:25, 5:05, 7:50, 10:30pm
Dreamgirls: 12:20, 4:10, 7:15, 10:20
Eragon: 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:25
Factory Girl: 12:40, 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:40
***Ghost Rider:** 11:50am, 12:30, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 4:40, 5:15, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:50, 10:15, 10:45pm
Hannibal Rising: 12:15, 1:15, 4:15, 4:50, 7:10, 7:40, 10:05, 10:35
The Last King of Scotland: 12:20, 4:20, 7:15, 10:20
Letters From Iwo Jima: 12:05, 3:15, 6:40, 10:00
The Pursuit of Happiness: 12:10, 4:30, 7:20, 10:25
The Queen: 12:45, 7:35
Smokin' Aces: 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:35
Volver: 4:20, 10:10

MILLENNIUM THEATRE 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.
Code Name: The Cleaner: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 4:15, 8:30; Wed-Thu (2/22), 4:15pm
Unaccompanied Minors: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 2:30, 6:15pm; Wed-Thu (2/22), 10:30am, 2:30, 6:15pm

ROUND ROCK 8 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.

Apocalypse: 12:20, 6:50
Bobby: Fri-Sat, 1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:00; Sun-Thu (2/22), 1:10, 4:10, 7:20
Casino Royale: Fri-Sat, 12:40, 12:55, 3:50, 4:05, 7:00, 7:15, 10:15, 10:25; Sun-Thu (2/22), 12:40, 12:55, 3:50, 4:05, 7:00, 7:15
Code Name: The Cleaner: Fri-Sat, 3:45, 9:55; Sun-Thu (2/22), 3:45pm
The Departed: Fri-Sat, 12:25, 3:40, 6:55, 10:10; Sun-Thu (2/22), 12:25, 3:40, 6:55
Flushed Away: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30; Sun-Thu (2/22), 12:05, 2:15, 4:30, 7:10
Unaccompanied Minors: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:35, 9:50; Sun-Thu (2/22), 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:35
We Are Marshall: Fri-Sat, 1:00, 4:20, 7:30, 10:20; Sun-Thu (2/22), 1:00, 4:20, 7:30

TEXAS UNION THEATRE UT Campus, 476-6666.
Austin Cinematheque: Lola: Mon, 7:30pm

TINSELTOWN NORTH North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 512/989-8540.
Arthur and the Invisibles: Fri, 1:45, 4:30; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:45, 4:30
Because I Said So: Fri, 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15
***Breach:** Fri, 1:20, 4:15, 7:05, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 10:25am, 1:20, 4:15, 7:05, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (2/22), 1:20, 4:15, 7:05, 10:10
***Bridge to Terabithia:** Fri, 11:40am, 12:10, 1:45, 2:15, 2:45, 4:25, 4:55, 5:25, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:40, 10:10, 10:40pm; Sat-Sun, 11:10

BLOOD DIAMOND

D: Edward Zwick; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Djimon Hounsou, Jennifer Connelly, Arnold Vosloo, Antony Coleman, David Harewood. (R, 143 min.)

As a means to drive home its argument – that the 14-carat rock on your fiancée's ring finger might be little more than a blood-drenched byproduct of an African civil war – the stringent verisimilitude of *Blood Diamond* includes endless sequences of slaughter, bloodthirsty child soldiers, and politically motivated dismemberment, which is rough, gory stuff. You can view Zwick's action-packed take on the issue as a social critique masquerading as cineplex fodder, but in this case, the Hollywood tropes of the storyline very nearly overwhelm the subject matter. DiCaprio plays a former mercenary who now operates a lucrative diamond-smuggling trade in war-torn Sierra Leone and has a crisis of conscience that arrives in the form of Connelly's crusading Yank journalist and Hounsou's downtrodden diamond-digger. *Blood Diamond* is by turns moving, horrific, and bombastic. The film works best when it puts its social message on the back burner. (12/08/2006) – Marc Savlov

★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown South

BOBBY

D: Emilio Estevez; with Harry Belafonte, Nick Cannon, Estevez, Laurence Fishburne, Anthony Hopkins, Helen Hunt, Ashton Kutcher, Lindsay Lohan, William H. Macy, Demi Moore, Martin Sheen, Christian Slater, Sharon Stone, Elijah Wood, Freddy Rodriguez, Heather Graham, Joshua Jackson, Shia LaBeouf, Jay Bryant. (R, 120 min.)

The story of Bobby Kennedy would make one hell of an epic melodrama. But writer/director Estevez chooses to forgo biopic convention with Bobby, instead focusing on the lives of 22 other people who happened to be in the Ambassador the night of June 5, 1968, when Kennedy was assassinated – everyday people whose own private dramas are playing out in the shadow of impending historical tragedy. The movie isn't about Kennedy; rather, Kennedy is the sun around which all the other planets of the film revolve. And like some epic Louis B. Mayer picture from the Thirties, Bobby has a thousand stars in its galaxy, some of them great (Fishburne, Rodriguez), some of them not (Wood, Hunt), and one of them brilliant (Hopkins). Estevez has a surprisingly sure hand both as a writer and director, and he manages to broach the most pressing issues of the day – drugs, Vietnam, racism, poverty – with a subtle touch. (11/24/2006) – Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Round Rock

PICTUREHOUSE and CAMPUS CIRCLE invite you and a guest to a FREE ADVANCE SCREENING of
Starter For 10
on Wed., Feb. 21 at 7:30 PM in Austin.

To attend this screening, RSVP at
Campuscircle.net/screening/TXStarterFor10

“Terrific fun!

A funny, romantic, seriously smart comedy. Do yourself a big favor and put this movie at the top of your must-see list.”

– Pete Hammond, *Maxim*



**starter
for 10**

HBO FILMS PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH PICTUREHOUSE AND DRG FILMS A PLAYTONE PICTURE A SCREENING WITH NEAL STREET PRODUCTIONS "STARTER FOR 10" JAMES VAN DER BEEK ALICE EVE REBECCA HALL WITH CHARLES DANCE AND LINDSAY DUNCAN ***WINA GOLD ***CHARLOTTE MORRIS ***BLAKE WELLY
 WRITTEN BY JON HARRIS DIRECTED BY HEATHER PERKINS PRODUCED BY SARAH GREENWOOD EDITED BY ASHLEY HOWE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MARY RICHARDS PRODUCED BY NATHALIE MARCANO MICHELLE CHYZOLK SONIA AGUIRRE SAM MENDES STEVEN SHARESHAN BASED ON HIS BOOK BY TOM VAUGHAN HBO FILMS PICTUREHOUSE

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MUSIC
PANCAKE
 - Theater

presents
TITANIC

BAD MOVIES, LIVE COMEDY

7 & 10 pm
**FRIDAY & SATURDAY
 ALAMO DOWNTOWN**

**TMNT 2: SECRET OF THE OOZE
 ALL YOU CAN EAT PIZZA PARTY!
 Tues, Feb 20, 7pm : Downtown**

**FRIDAY, 2/16 - VILLAGE
 LOVE BITES: POWER BALLAD SING-ALONG
 MIDNIGHT THIS WEEKEND AT THE VILLAGE!**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 2/16 & 2/17 - VILLAGE
 SPIKE & MIKE'S SICK & TWISTED 2007
 LAST CHANCE TO SEE THIS YEAR'S SHOW IN AUSTIN!**

**SUNDAY, 2/18 - DOWNTOWN
 AUSTIN MARATHON VIEWING PARTY
 DRINK BEER WHILE YOU WATCH YOUR FRIENDS RUN!**

**SUNDAY, 2/18 - DOWNTOWN
 THE MOULIN ROUGE SING-ALONG**

**TUESDAY, 2/20 - DOWNTOWN
 JOHN WATERS' POLYESTER
 IN ODORAMA - SMELL THE MOVIE!**

**WEDNESDAY, 2/21 - DOWNTOWN
 FOR THE LOVE OF DOLLY
 DOC ABOUT INTENSE DOLLY PARTON FANS!**

**WEDNESDAY, 2/21 - DOWNTOWN
 OPEN SCREEN NIGHT
 BRING ANY MOVIE TO SHOW & WE'LL BUY YOU A BEER!**

DOWNTOWN - 4TH AND COLORADO

THU, FEB 15	FLICKER FILM FESTIVAL LOVE BITES: POWER BALLAD SING-ALONG • TERROR THURS (FREE) THE BOOGEYMAN	7:00 9:45 MIDNIGHT
FRI, FEB 16	MASTER PANCAKE: TITANIC •	7:10:00
SAT, FEB 17	RUNNER'S HIGH MASTER PANCAKE: TITANIC •	1:30 7:10:00
SUN, FEB 18	AUSTIN MARATHON VIEWING PARTY MOULIN ROUGE SING-ALONG SPECTACULAR • VJ COMPETITION: SOUNDS SEEN	7:00 7:00 9:45
MON, FEB 19	EDDIE MURPHY: RAW MUSIC MON: LIQUID VINYL	7:00 9:45
TUES, FEB 20	TMNT 2: SECRET OF THE OOZE PIZZA PARTY! • POLYESTER: IN ODORAMA!	7:00 9:45
WED, FEB 21	FOR THE LOVE OF DOLLY OPEN SCREEN NIGHT WEIRD WEDS (FREE) BAD RONALD	7:00 9:45 MIDNIGHT
THU, FEB 22	MOULIN ROUGE SING-ALONG SPECTACULAR • LOVE BITES: POWER BALLAD SING-ALONG • TERROR THURS (FREE) HUMANIDS FROM DEEP	7:00 9:45 MIDNIGHT

SOUTH LAMAR - 1120 SOUTH LAMAR BLVD

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NOTES ON SCANDAL	1115*	145*	410	710	935
VOLVER	100*	345	705	950	
CHILDREN OF MEN	1120*	205*	450	740	1020
PAN'S LABYRINTH	1100*	150*	435	735	1025
AFS: IRON ISLAND				700 (Tues)	

VILLAGE - ANDERSON LANE WEST OF BURNET

GHOST RIDER •	120*	420	705	945
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BECAUSE I SAID SO	135*	420	730	1000
SMOKIN' ACES	125*	415	735	1015
LOVE BITES SING-ALONG •			MIDNIGHT (Fri)	
SPIKE & MIKE SICK & TWISTED			MIDNIGHT (Fri, Sat)	
ROCKY HORROR			MIDNIGHT (Sat)	
BATTLESTAR GALACTICA			9:45 (Sun)	
24			9:45 (Mon)	
LOST			9:45 (Weds)	
THE O.C. FINALE			9:45 (Thurs)	

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LAKECREEK SHOWTIMES
 (THE & LAKECREEK PARKWAY)

CATCH & RELEASE
 (12:10 3:15)
 7:30 10:30

BREACH
 (12:20 3:40)
 7:30 10:25

DADDY'S LITTLE GIRLS
 (12:00 3:00)
 7:05 10:10

DREAMGIRLS
 (12:00 3:00)
 7:10 10:05

THE MESSENGERS
 (12:45 3:35)
 7:35 10:30

SMOKIN' ACES
 (12:00 3:00)
 7:35 10:45

THE DEPARTED
 (11:30 3:25)
 7:00 10:40

ALL TIMES
 SUBJECT TO CHANGE

4 & NO SHOW AGEN
 7 & 10 SHOW AGEN

11 MATINEE

TRUE ROMANCE
MIDNIGHT
FEB. 23rd & 24th

FEB 23rd - MARCH 4TH
730 & 1030
SPIKE & MIKE'S
SICK & TWISTED
FESTIVAL OF ANIMATION

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SUNDAY FEB 25TH 7PM
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CONTESTS-PRIZES

LOST
 - WEDNESDAYS -
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GHOST RIDER Presented in DLP Cinema • (PG-13)
 Fri. & Sat. 12:00 12:30 2:25 2:55 4:50 5:20 7:15 7:45 9:40 10:10 11:50
 Sun. - Thu. 12:00 12:30 2:25 2:55 4:50 5:20 7:15 7:45 9:40 10:10

BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA Presented in DLP Cinema • (PG)
 Fri. & Sat. 11:05 1:05 3:05 5:05 7:05 9:05 11:05
 Sun. - Thu. 11:05 1:05 3:05 5:05 7:05 9:05

DADDY'S LITTLE GIRLS Presented in DLP Cinema • (PG-13)
 Fri. & Sat. 11:00 1:00 3:20 5:20 7:30 9:40 11:50
 Sun. - Thu. 11:00 1:00 3:20 5:20 7:30 9:40

MUSIC AND LYRICS Presented in DLP Cinema • (PG-13)
 Fri. & Sat. 11:15 1:10 3:20 5:20 7:20 9:20 11:20
 Sun. - Thu. 11:15 1:10 3:20 5:20 7:20 9:20

HANNIBAL RISING (R) Fri. - Thu. 11:40 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:55

NORBIT (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 11:15 1:15 3:15 5:25 7:35 9:50 12:00

BECAUSE I SAID SO (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:15 2:30 4:50 7:10 9:30 11:50
 Sun. - Thu. 12:15 2:30 4:50 7:10 9:30

THE MESSENGERS (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 11:50 1:50 3:50 5:50 7:50 9:50 11:50
 Sun. - Thu. 11:50 1:50 3:50 5:50 7:50 9:50

SMOKIN' ACES (R) Fri. - Thu. 12:20 2:40 5:00 7:20 9:50

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG) Fri. - Thu. 12:30

Showtimes good for Friday, 2/16 thru Thursday, 2/22

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★ CASINO ROYALE

D: Martin Campbell; with Daniel Craig, Judi Dench, Mads Mikkelsen, Eva Green, Jeffrey Wright, Giancarlo Giannini, Isaach De Bankolé, Caterina Murino. (PG-13, 144 min.)

This is the origin story wherein we get to discover, along with incoming blond Bond Craig, where 007 got his Walther PPK, his love of fast cars, suave daredeviltry, vodka martinis, and high-stakes cardsharperry. The good news is Craig is mesmerizing; you can see Sean Connery in his future, and it looks just about spot-on. Craig carries *Casino Royale* with gutsy aplomb, and if his Bond carries more than a hint of streetwise rough trade, it only adds to the film's edgy, grim demeanor. Bond purists will rankle at this film's extended – but necessary for future character development – backstory, which until now is not a phrase I'd have used to describe 007. Unlike the other Bonds, this one feels pain, lots of it, and bleeds a lot of blood. Those who always hoped the series would morph into something approaching realism (if only cinematic) will find their wait justly rewarded. Craig, simply put, is Bond. (11/17/2006) – Marc Savlov ★★☆☆ Round Rock

CATCH AND RELEASE

D: Susannah Grant; with Jennifer Garner, Timothy Olyphant, Sam Jaeger, Kevin Smith, Juliette Lewis, Joshua Friesen, Fiona Shaw. (PG-13, 124 min.)

An archetypal date movie with a good heart, *Catch and Release* is the feature debut of screenwriter Grant (Erin Brockovich). This story of Gray (Garner), a young woman widowed on her wedding day who discovers her husband-to-be's shadow life with the help of his tightly knit group of friends, is pretty lightweight, but the performances are well done. After the death of her one true love, she finds a series of monthly payments to an unknown person in a faraway place. It doesn't take much to figure out what those mystery checks might be, but Grant uses them to introduce another pair of characters: Lewis as the ditsy single mom of Gray's unknown stepchild and Friesen as the boy. This is the sort of film that used to be called "indie" back when the term actually meant something. Now it's just another romantic comedy buoyed along on currents of hope and post-traumatic good cheer. (01/26/2007) – Marc Savlov ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Cinemark Round Rock

★ CHILDREN OF MEN

D: Alfonso Cuarón; with Clive Owen, Julianne Moore, Michael Caine, Chiwetel Ejiofore, Claire-Hope Ashitey, Pam Ferris, Danny Huston, Peter Mullan. (R, 109 min.)

Brimming with cinematic gusto, *Children of Men* is a captivating spectacle. Set in the near future of 2027, the film depicts an anarchic world in which women, for reasons left unexplained, have



become infertile. Director Cuarón and cinematographer Emmanuel Lubezki do a stunning job of creating this gray-bombed-out universe devoid of joy and hope while also providing visceral thrills. However, one wishes Cuarón, who is listed along with four others as the film's screenwriter, had spent as much time tidying up some of the film's many unanswered questions as he did on figuring out his visual strategies. Ultimately, *Children of Men* becomes a mere cautionary nativity story – a variation on the immaculate conception and the birth of the savior of humanity. Were *Children of Men* not so exhilarating to watch, the story's unaddressed mysteries would be more distracting. Fortunately, the movie is also very well-cast. (01/05/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★☆☆ Alamo Drafthouse South

CODE NAME: THE CLEANER

D: Les Mayfield; with Cedric the Entertainer, Lucy Liu, Nicollette Sheridan, Will Patton, Mark Dacascos, Callum Keith Rennie. (PG-13, 91 min.)

For anyone venturing to see *Code Name: The Cleaner*, it will be hard to remember that Cedric the Entertainer is actually funny. Or rather, he can be. In this entirely forgettable comedy, the talented comedian mugs his way through an utterly deflated film. Cedric plays Jake, a janitor who unwittingly becomes entangled in super-spy espionage. There's some business about a computer chip, video-game manufacturers, and double-crossing FBI agents, but it's all just the silliness on which to hang Cedric's antics. Ultimately, the jokes just aren't funny, and the whole effort becomes lazy with predictability and cheap shots. Sheridan and Liu perform

adequately in roles that offer little depth and less comedic possibility. The most poignant point in the whole painful endeavor is when the credits roll. It's here that we see the outtakes and watch Cedric riffing as he improves variations on his dialogue. These outtakes are genuinely funny. (01/12/2007) – Toddy Burton ★ Millenium, Round Rock

★ DREAMGIRLS

D: Bill Condon; with Jamie Foxx, Beyoncé Knowles, Eddie Murphy, Jennifer Hudson, Anika Noni Rose, Keith Robinson, Danny Glover, Hinton Battle. (PG-13, 131 min.)

This euphoric adaptation of the hit Broadway backstage musical about an all-girl singing group loosely modeled on the Supremes is an infectious experience of sequins and songs. Spanning the musical spectrum from the pre-Motown Sixties to the disco era in the late Seventies – when black music and pop music finally converged – *Dreamgirls* is a glittery, slick melodrama about how show business can cultivate egos and destroy friendships, all in the quest to be at the top of the heap. A great deal of the credit for the film's success must go to screenwriter and director Condon, who has fashioned a dazzling jewel of a movie. Hudson's turn as the proud, stubborn, and self-destructive Effie is a revelation; you can't imagine this movie without it. Pop star Knowles holds her own, although the male actors fare less well, largely because their characters are not as interesting, comparatively speaking, with the exception of Murphy. (12/22/2006) – Steve Davis ★★☆☆ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Gateway, Metropolitan

EPIC MOVIE

D: Jason Friedberg, Aaron Seltzer; with Kal Penn, Adam Campbell, Jennifer Coolidge, Jayma Mays, Faune A. Chambers, Crispin Glover, Carmen Electra, Fred Willard, David Carradine. (PG-13, 92 min.)

Stealing shamelessly from the kitchen-sink approach to comedy pioneered by Jim Abrahams and the Zucker brothers (*Airplane!*, *Naked Gun*) and Mel Brooks, writer/directors Friedberg and Seltzer (*Scary Movie*, *Date Movie*) once again put all their emphasis on the "sink," covering up their movie's complete lack of humor or originality with a steady, rapid-fire barrage of insipid adventure-movie references and excrement jokes. These two are leading the charge of a new comedy movement in American movies, wherein a deep and abiding malice for their protagonists and a desire to see them tortured, beaten, maimed, and mocked time and again act as a substitute for real comedy writing. Friedberg and Seltzer are completely tone-deaf when it comes to the art of film parody, and their special form of sadism-as-punch-line leaves their audience in a perpetual cringe, waiting for the next awful thing to come down the pike and befall the hapless characters onscreen. (02/02/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt ★ Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

ERAGON

D: Stefan Fangmeier; with Edward Speleers, Sienna Guillory, Djimon Hounsou, Jeremy Irons, John Malkovich, Robert Carlyle, Garrett Hedlund. (PG, 104 min.)

Dear George Lucas: What gives with this *Eragon* jazz? I mean, gee whiz, did you seriously think that we wouldn't recognize you, the Great Man, as the guiding, um, force behind this dull retelling of *Star Wars*? C'mon, man, give us a little credit: An orphaned farm boy, raised by his uncle, who harbors a secret destiny as the last of a magical breed of warriors? An evil king and an imperiled princess? A sage old mentor and a cocksure sidekick? A rebel alliance and a desperate, final airborne assault on the forces of darkness? Dude, we've been over this before. Enough, already. It's bad enough that you've cloaked your true identity behind that of 15-year-old bestselling novelist Christopher Paolini – which, frankly, is totally creeping us out – but did you have to remake *Episode IV* all over again? With friggin' dragons?! Trust me, the X-Wings were infinitely cooler. (12/15/2006) – Marc Savlov ★ Metropolitan

★ FLUSHED AWAY

D: David Bowers, Sam Fell; with Kate Winslet, Hugh Jackman, Ian McKellen, Andy Serkis, Bill Nighy, Shane Richie, Susan Duerden, Jean Reno. (PG, 86 min.)

Flushed Away, the new feature from Aardman Animations (*Chicken Run* and the ingenious *Wallace & Gromit* films) revels in its British-ness. The film's hero, a domesticated rat named Roddy (Jackman), is the perfect comic embodiment of upper-class English propriety: effete, pampered, and exceedingly well-dressed. But when a rough-and-tumble cockney sewer rat named Sid (Richie) comes crashing into Roddy's posh, comfortable little world, our hero is sent kicking and screaming down the toilet bowl and into the harsh sewer world below, where rats, frogs, and slugs have re-created a tiny London beneath the real city's surface and where an ill-prepared and ill-equipped Roddy must quickly learn to fend for himself. *Flushed Away* has a wicked, smart, and subtle sense of humor, and unlike so many kids movies these days, its characters are living, breathing parts of a small ecosystem, rather than just caricatures created to spout out one-liners and sell Happy Meals. (11/03/2006) – Josh Rosenblatt ★★☆☆ Round Rock

HANNIBAL RISING

D: Peter Webber; with Gaspard Ulliel, Rhys Ifans, Gong Li, Helena Lia Tachovska, Dominic West, Aaron Thomas, Kevin McKidd, Richard Brake. (R, 121 min.)

Apparently readers and viewers aren't satisfied with the hours of gruesome fun Hannibal "the Cannibal" Lecter has provided them; they want to get the good doctor on a leather couch and peel back a few layers. However, *Hannibal Rising* is an uninspired and altogether unnecessary biography of a madman. Surely the roots of this cannibal's bloody, fleshy desires run deeper than mere neuroses and childhood trauma. Ulliel, who plays Hannibal, is an elegantly chiseled cipher with minimal acting talent and a laughable accent. All the

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SPECIAL SCREENINGS

AFTER THE WEDDING

D: Susanne Bier; with Mads Mikkelsen, Rolf Lassgård, Sidse Babett Knudsen.

A Danish man returns home after 20 years to attend a wedding that becomes a landmark meeting between past and future, putting him in the dilemma of his life. (RP)

AUGUST EVENING

D: Chris Eska; with Pedro Castaneda, Veronica Loren.

We follow an aging undocumented worker, Jaime, and his young widowed daughter-in-law, Lupe, as their lives are thrown into upheaval. Lupe is more of a daughter to Jaime than his own children, and the two try to stick together... but change is inevitable. (Sneak Preview)

BLINDSIGHT

D: Lucy Walker.

An emotional account of one visually-impaired man's journey to climb Mt. Everest, with a collection of visually-impaired children. (RP)

BROKE SKY

D: Thomas Callaway; with Will Wallace, Joe Unger, Bruce Glover, Marco Perella.

Two friends are put to the test when they discover a dead body and don't see eye-to-eye on how to handle it. (WP)

CALL OF THE HUMMINGBIRD

D: Alice Klein.

A documentary look at a gathering of a thousand earth-lovers who have come together to experiment with a new sense of politics that aims to break out of old-school boundaries by politicizing the spiritual, and spiritualizing the political. (WP)

CASHBACK

Wr, D: Sean Ellis; with Sean Biggerstaff, Emilia Fox, Shaun Evans.

To pass the long hours of the night while suffering from insomnia, an English art student starts working the late-night shift at the local supermarket. There he meets a colorful cast of characters, all of whom have their own "art" in dealing with the boredom of an eight-hour-shift. (RP)

CHERRY VALLEY

D: Patrick Steward.

Three film students travel to the small town of Cherry Valley to investigate a ghost in their friend's house. Expecting to find nothing, they arrive to find that the entire town may be haunted. (WP)

THE DEVIL CAME ON HORSEBACK

D: Annie Sundberg and Ricki Stern.

A politically-charged documentary look at the conflict in Darfur, through the eyes and camera of one disillusioned American soldier. (RP)

DIGGERS

D: Katherine Dieckmann; with Paul Rudd, Lauren Ambrose, Ron Eldard, Josh Hamilton, Sarah Paulson, Ken Marino.

The story of two generations of hard-living clam diggers, trying to maintain their way of life in the midst of the enormous changes swirling around them. (RP)

DISTURBIA

D: D.J. Caruso; with Shia LeBeouf, David Morse, Carrie-Anne Moss, Sarah Roemer.

A group of teenagers become fascinated by the dark secrets and deadly acts which may lurk in the home of a mysterious neighbor.

ELECTRIC APRICOT: THE QUEST FOR FESTEROO

Wr, D: Les Claypool; with Claypool, Adam Gates, Brian Kehoe, Jonathan Korty, Jason McHugh.

In the spring of 2005, a UCLA graduate student gets more the he bargains for when he sets out to document an aging Northern California Jam band on the cusp of an apparent career break-through. (RP)

EVERYTHING'S COOL

D: Judith Helfand and Daniel B. Gold.

A documentary about America finally understanding global warming, in the wake of the most dangerous chasm ever to emerge between scientific understanding and political action. (RP)

FAY GRIM

D, Wr: Hal Hartley; with Parker Posey, Jeff Goldblum, Liam Aiken, James Urbaniak, Saffron Burrows.

A follow-up to Hal Hartley's beloved "Henry Fool" – 10 years later Henry's ex-wife must come to grips with the fact that she and her son may now be entangled in a batch of amusing international espionage.

IMPRINT

D: Michael Linn; with Tonantzin Carmelo, Michael Spears, Carla-Rae Holland, Cory Brusseau.

A contemporary Native American dramatic supernatural thriller that tells the story of Shayla Stonefeather, a prominent Native American attorney who has turned away from her people and the dreams of her youth. (WP)

THE KING OF KONG

D: Seth Gordon.

An entertaining nonfiction glimpse at the rivalry that brew between two men as they battle for the world record in the Donkey Kong video game. (RP)

KNOCKED UP

Wr, D: Judd Apatow; with Seth Rogen, Katherine Heigl, Paul Rudd, Leslie Mann. On the heels of 2005's blockbuster *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, writer/director Judd Apatow again mines hilarity from the relatably human in a comedy about a one-night stand with unexpected consequences: *Knocked Up*.

THE LATHER EFFECT

D: Sarah Kelly; Wr: Kelly and Tim Talbott; with Connie Britton, Sarah Clarke, Tate Donovan, Peter Facinelli, David Herman.

On the eve of the sale of her parents' home, thirty-something Valinda throws an 1980's rager, reuniting high school friends for one last chance to relive their wild youth – and the hangovers that went with it. (RP)

MAYBE BABY

D: Shannon O'Rourke.

An intimate documentary that takes a new look at the emotional and physiological journeys of six women in their 30s and 40s as they pursue pregnancy through Assisted Reproductive Technology, a multi-billion dollar industry. (WP)

TRUTH IN TERMS OF BEAUTY

D: Vince DiPersio.

A documentary journey with acclaimed photographer Herman Leonard, as he guides us on a tour through his adventurous life: the jazz scene in New York, high fashion in Paris, Ibiza the Spanish island, and New Orleans in its full glory. (WP)

WHO LOVES THE SUN

Wr, D: Matt Bissonette; with Lukas Haas, Molly Parker, Adam Scott.

An innocent misunderstanding reveals a family secret, which suggests that the younger generation is much like the older one, and that the human problems don't get solved. They simply get handed down. (RP)

YA BASTA

D: Ricardo Ainslie.

A gripping and disturbing documentary look at the cruel world of kidnappings in modern Mexico City.

ZOO

D: Robinson Devor.

An artful and beautiful documentary that weaves stunning cinematography with audio interviews detailing what led to the controversial evening in the Pacific Northwest, when a family man died after engaging in sexual acts with a horse. (RP)

SHORTS PROGRAMS

Texas Shorts

Snail

D: Sharad Patel. A man slowly puts together the horrible events of the night before, putting clues into a spiraling, solidifying memory.

Playing Chicken

D: Bradley Jackson. Can a guy in a chicken suit overcome impossible odds and get the girl?

I Am Nick Robinson

D: Nick Robinson. A delivery mix-up spells doom for Nick Robinson when he meets his neighbor ... Nick Robinson.

Memory Scars

D: Sarah Lipstate. The impressions left behind by a dream.

The Trouble With Jumpsuits

D: Joshua Krivol & Craig Elrod. Gabe works at a plant nursery. Heather does too. The only thing between them is the man in the green jumpsuit.

art/work

D: Avram Dodson. A glimpse into the lives of four Austin artists, and the joys and hardships of creating art while working a day job.

Life is Marbleous

D: Mike Woolf. Another short doc from Beef and Pie. This one meshes music and marbles. Over a dozen bands provide original music.

Today, I Become a Man

D: Mocha Jean Herrup. Documentary about a man who tries to pass as a "real" drag king by pretending to be a woman pretending to be a man.

The Safety of Others

D: Jenni Tooley. A 30-something-corporate-guy falls in love with a co-worker, only he doesn't know it yet.

Baby Cakes: Diary #1

D: Brad Neely. Page one in the day to day life of a giant 30 year old man-child.

The Mechanic

D: Chris Rusch. A thief works to balance his obsession with crime and his obsession with cars.

Reel Shorts One

Heavy Metal Drummer

D: Luke Morris & Toby MacDonald. A young Heavy Metal fan in Morocco struggles with his passion for the music.

Forward

D: Cecily Rhett. A short film involving a re-enactment of the Civil War and other, more personal, bad breakups.

LOOPS: A Portrait of Caddie Life

D: M.R. Dhar, Stephen McFarland. True story of the hopes, fears, and ambitions of three caddies working at Winged Foot Golf Club.

Buttercup

D: Simon Hawkins. With his wife and daughter Buttercup, Craig lived a picture perfect existence in Darien, Connecticut. That is, until his wife fell ill, and Jacques the herbalist moved in.

Coney Island, USA

D: Craig Butta. Down-and-out carnival hustler tries to cope with a changing world at Coney Island while falling for a sideshow freak.

Trout

Dir/Scr: Johnny Barrington. An absurd chain of events involving a highland cow, a superhero costume and a faulty light socket, shows that true love may just triumph above all.

The Rapture of the Athlete Assumed into Heaven

D: Keith Bogart. A reporter interviews a tennis player who achieves his greatest thrill as an athlete on the last day of his life.

Morning

D: Leland Orser. Four mornings in the life of a man experiencing great loss.

Reel Shorts Two

The Saddest Boy in the World

D: Jamie Travis. Timothy Higgins, picked last for the team, is the saddest boy in the world. At his ninth birthday party, Timothy prepares for a show-stopping suicide.

Clear Cut, Simple/ Khayen

D: Vineet Dewan. The friendship between an American soldier and his Iraqi interpreter is put to the ultimate test when his friend is suspected of smuggling weapons.

The Job

D: Jonathan Browning. An off-beat look at one of the political hot-button issues of the year.

Happiness

D: Sophie Barthes. What if happiness was for sale? One evening, after work, Iwona buys a box of happiness in a strange discount store and has to decide what to do with it.

The Definition of Sex

D: Peter R. Mervis. A highly insecure B-movie actor is desperate to determine whether or not his intimate experience the previous night constitutes intercourse.

Death to the Tinman

D: Ray Tintori. The mostly unknown, dark, and romantic story of how the Tin Woodman lost his limbs, his heart, his lover, and how he fought to get her back.

Un attimo di respiro (A Moment to Breathe)

D: Sara Colangelo. A young pig slaughterer dreams of escaping from his suffocating life in the Italian countryside. In a moment of panic, he makes a break for the big city.

Reel Shorts Three

Make a Wish

D: Cherien Dabis. A young Palestinian girl will do whatever it takes to buy a birthday cake. A simple trip to the bakery turns into much more.

For a Swim with the Fish

D: Tara Autovino. A girl pays her dead mother, whom she believes to be living in the Gulf of Mexico as a mermaid, a birthday visit.

Monday Night

D: Karl Raudsepp-Hearne. A man comes unlinged on the squash court, while his partner tries to schmooze money out of him.

Tom's War on Terror

D: Cameron Fay. Tom's a man on the edge. Pressures from his daily life are bearing down on him ... not to mention the constant tension of living under an "orange alert."

Pop Foul

D: Moon Molson. A boy sees his father take a "beat down" from a local thug on the way home from a Little League game – and a series of betrayals follow.

Piece by Piece

D: Sachi Schuricht, Emma Thatcher, Isaiah Allekotte, Grace Rathbone-Webber. Welcome to the world of speedcubing. Meet the 1982 Swedish speedcubing champion. Hear from a speedcubing couple about the cube's power to impress women.

By Modern Measure

D: Matthew Lessner. An amateur French sociologist presents his observations on a day in the life of two young Americans who meet by chance outside a Taco Bell.

We're Going To The Zoo

D: Josh Safdie. This is the story of a brother and sister and their journey to a zoo. They accidentally pick up a hitchhiker on the way.

Plus:

Experimental Shorts

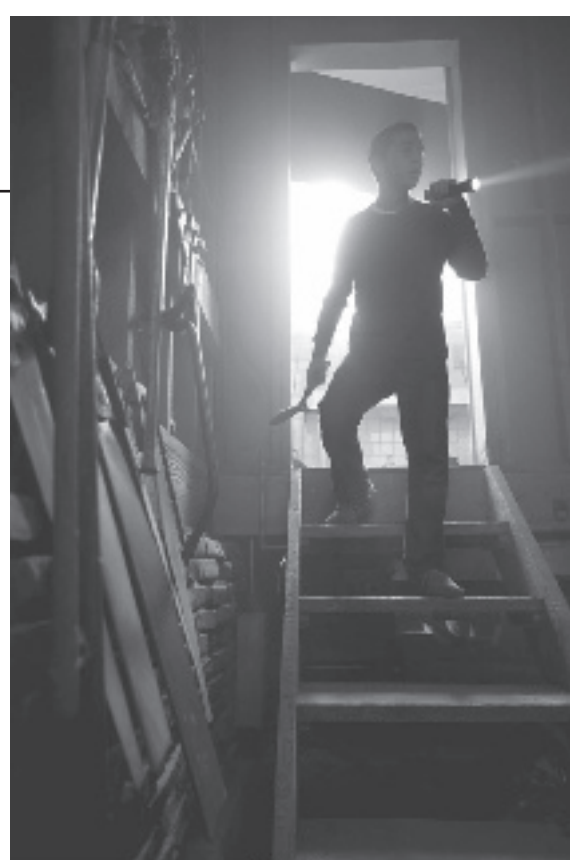
Animated Shorts

Midnight Shorts

Music Videos

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DISTURBIA

Photo by Jaimie Trueblood

Music Documentary Retrospective

In the "Retrospectives" section of the film festival, SXSW has announced a special Music Documentaries Retrospective:

Jeroen Berkvens' *Nick Drake: A Skin Too Few* (2000)

Ron Mann's *Imagine the Sound* (1981)

D.A. Pennebaker's *Monterey Pop* (1968)

Bruce Weber's *Let's Get Lost* (1988)

In addition, SXSW will screen a remastered print of Eagle Pennell's 1979 classic *The Whole Shootin' Match*.

Zellner vs. Duplass Shorts Face-Off!

Wanna take a ride through a recent history in popular shorts filmmaking? At SXSW 2007, check out "Zellner Vs. Duplass: a Sibling Rivalry in Short Form." The film festival will host a retrospective of popular short films made by two filmmaking duos: The Zellner Brothers and The Duplass Brothers. The celebrated, award-winning films will screen in one program, for a combined celebration of the power of short filmmaking.

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Iron Island

Iron Island (2005) *D: Mohammad Rasoulof; with Ali Nassirian, Hossein Farzi-Zadeh, Neda Pakdaman. (NR, 90 min.)* **Austin Film Society – Children of Abraham/Ibrahim: Films of North Africa and the Middle East.** A group of Persian Arabs who are squatting on an abandoned oil tanker in the Persian Gulf form their own society while harvesting scrap metal and oil from the ship and raising families. They are presided over by the commander and patriarch, who governs with an iron hand. See p.60 of this week's Screens section for more about the series. @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tuesday, 7pm; AFS members free, \$4 nonmembers.



seductiveness is gone from Hannibal, as is the riddle behind his motivation, and what remains is the whining of an adolescent with a taste for human flesh. Hannibal has been stripped of his ability to terrify (who's going to lose sleep if he noshes on a few Nazis?), and the film, though gory and violent, is almost entirely devoid of shock or suspense. Who would have thought mass murder and cannibalism could be so dull? (02/09/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt
★↗ CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

★ **HAPPY FEET**
D: George Miller; with Elijah Wood, Robin Williams, Brittany Murphy, Hugh Jackman, Nicole Kidman, Hugo Weaving, Anthony LaPaglia. (PG, 108 min.)
Who knew that we'd turn out to be a nation hooked on penguins? *Happy Feet* treads material common to kids films and cartoons: A young animal stands out because of his inability to perform like the other animals, although he seemingly compensates for this defect by demonstrating a certain skill that sets him apart from the others, who ostracize him for his weirdness. Mumble, the young penguin, spontaneously tap-dances like, well, like Savion Glover (whose acclaimed footwork was filmed with motion-capture techniques and grafted onto the penguin's body). This film's prominent ecological themes steer clear of more complex questions but are refreshing nevertheless. The constant singing and dancing is charmingly presented, and the CGI re-creations are stunning. The chase sequences might prove a bit scary for some of the younger viewers, and the opening and closing sections of the film are a little bumpy. Still, you'll most probably find yourself raising your flippers in praise of these flightless fowl. (11/17/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★★ Tinseltown North

THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND
D: Kevin Macdonald; with Forest Whitaker, James McAvoy, Kerry Washington, Gillian Anderson, Simon McBurney, David Oyelowo. (R, 121 min.)
At the heart of this movie is a ferocious performance by Whitaker as the ousted Ugandan dictator Idi Amin. Yet, the movie observes the despot through the eyes of a callow young doctor (McAvoy) who gradually grows thoroughly disillusioned after spending years as the chosen bosom buddy of the erratic dictator. Aside from the fictional invention of the doctor, this narrative device feels like the same sort of miscalculation that marred the civil-rights drama *Mississippi Burning*: Both films are stories about black populations that are told through the eyes of white interlopers. Furthermore, Garrigan is not a particularly likable character; his naive self-interest is unforgivable in this dangerous milieu, and his late-stage transformation and illicit love affair never have the ring of truth. With an unsympathetic Everyman as our stand-in and an evil despot at the center of the story, *The Last King of Scotland* struggles to win our hearts. (10/13/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Metropolitan

★ **LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA**
D: Clint Eastwood; with Ken Watanabe, Kazunari Ninomiya, Shido Nakamura, Tsuyoshi Ihara, Ryo Kase, Yuki Matsuzaki, Hiroshi Watanabe, Takumi Bando. (R, 141 min., subtitled)
In his companion film to *Flags of Our Fathers*, Eastwood again shows the process by which young soldiers become unwitting fodder for their country's war effort. While the flawed *Flags* tells the story of three American soldiers, *Letters From Iwo Jima* instead looks at the story of the 36-day World War II battle for the island of Iwo Jima from the Japanese perspective. We are con-

fronted with images of military men who not only are expected to serve their emperor and suffer starvation, disease, and overwhelming odds but also die rather than face the cultural ignominy of defeat. Eastwood's subtitled movie shows us at least a handful of warriors who resisted their orders to die in suicide missions, who wanted to return alive to their loved ones, and whose capacity to think for themselves put them at odds with their orders. The humanistic approach makes Eastwood's movie a war story for the ages. (01/19/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Metropolitan

LITTLE CHILDREN
D: Todd Field; with Kate Winslet, Patrick Wilson, Jennifer Connelly, Gregg Edelman, Jackie Earle Haley, Phyllis Somerville, Noah Emmerich, Sadie Goldstein, Raymond J. Barry, Jane Adams. (R, 130 min.)
All is not well in suburbia. At the heart of Field's complexly interwoven film is Sarah (Winslet), a wonderful, woeful creature of sly intellect and a disappointing marriage, who meets cute with handsome stay-at-home dad Brad (Wilson). Soon the modern Emma Bovary and her should-have-been Mr. Right are getting down in Sarah's laundry room only to discover that while their archetypically American lives may yet have a second act, it could well end up as a tragedy. *Little Children* is emotionally riveting, with converging storylines, and some of the best acting of the past year. To its credit, the script (by Field and Tom Perrotta, from the latter's novel) never takes the easy way out. What keeps the film from being the emotional powerhouse it could have been lies less with the direction than with the story's sheer girth, which has so many interrelated paths and so much suburban angst that it bogs down midway through. (01/05/2007)– Marc Savlov
★★★ CM Barton Creek

THE MESSENGERS
D: Oxide Pang Chun, Danny Pang; with Dylan McDermott, Kristen Stewart, Penelope Ann Miller, John Corbett, William B. Davis, Brent Briscoe. (PG-13, 84 min.)
This spook story is a surprisingly mediocre Hollywood debut for Hong Kong's Pang brothers (of 2002's *The Eye*). It draws heavily on the haunted-house horrors of the 1980s – *The Changeling* or *Poltergeist* – in which the characters are as terrified by the breakdown of family and community as they are by scary possessed toys and mysterious swarms of flies. It's all pretty much average, although Stewart shows off a final-girl fierceness that commands notice. Though it's clear what the script (by Dallasite Mark Wheaton) is trying to do with its drama among family farmers, and the Pangs seem to enjoy photographing creepy things in a quintessentially American setting – the scariest part happens in a prairie of sunflowers on a perfectly sunny day – the movie doesn't actually have many tricks up its sleeve besides making things pop out suddenly and angled shots of a rack of rusty threshers swinging ominously in the breeze. (02/09/2007) – Marrit Ingman
★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM
D: Shawn Levy; with Ben Stiller, Carla Gugino, Robin Williams, Dick Van Dyke, Ricky Gervais, Mickey Rooney, Paul Rudd, Owen Wilson, Bill Cobbs, Steve Coogan, Jake Cherry. (PG, 108 min.)
Stiller stars as a would-be schemer and all-but-deadbeat dad who finds a job as a night watchman at the American Museum of Natural History. On his first night, after inheriting the instruction manual from the “downsized” Cecil (Van Dyke, who looks like he's having a blast), Reginald (Cobbs), and Gus (Rooney), Larry discovers that the place goes

Greetings

Greetings (1968) *D: Brian De Palma; with Robert De Niro, Jonathan Warden, Gerrit Graham. (R, 88 min.)* **Robert De Niro Film Series.** Early De Palma feature showcases the young De Niro as one of a group of three friends. De Niro plays the filmmaker of the group, who is also a Peeping Tom. Associate Curator of Film Steve Wilson will introduce each film in the four-part series and discuss selected items from the Ransom Center's De Niro collection. @Harry Ransom Center, 7pm; Tuesday, free.



apeshit after dark: The Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton reanimates, as do Attila the Hun, an Easter Island Moai, and the entire Hall of African Mammals. Credit Levy – who shoots everything imagination-size, larger than life, and set against amber tones – for unleashing the beasts almost immediately. Amid crummy sight gags and predictable physical comedy, sputtering scenes, and the stale and watered-down talent that is Stiller in another non-sense story, *Night at the Museum* is at best a rotation of backdrops for its parade of visual effects. (12/22/2006) – Shawn Badgley
★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

NORBIT
D: Brian Robbins; with Eddie Murphy, Thandie Newton, Cuba Gooding Jr., Eddie Griffin, Terry Crews, Clifton Powell, Marlon Wayans. (PG-13, 95 min.)
Murphy doesn't just put on a dress this time around in playing the grossly obese Rasputia in *Norbit*. This is a character that literally fills the screen. If you don't appreciate the vulgar pleasures of broad comedy, the ongoing fat joke in *Norbit* will likely strike you as misogynistic and mean-spirited, which may not be too far off the mark. Unlike the female characters Murphy portrayed in *The Nutty Professor* and its sequel, Rasputia is purposely one-dimensional in the way she terrorizes her dweeb husband, Norbit (Murphy again), and everyone else within distance. The fun in *Norbit* is watching Murphy at work – the guy has a knack for bringing the physicality of his comic characters to life. He plays three roles here, and they're all fully realized in the physical sense but sadly lacking otherwise. It's too bad that the script doesn't serve Murphy's multi-character talents in the way he deserves. (02/09/2007) – Steve Davis
★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

NOTES ON A SCANDAL
D: Richard Eyre; with Judi Dench, Cate Blanchett, Bill Nighy, Andrew Simpson, Juno Temple. (R, 91 min.)
This movie is a hothouse psychodrama, full of outrageous and florid sentiments that are made semipalatable by the quality of the craftsmanship involved. Adapted by Patrick Marber (*Closer*) from the novel by Zoë Heller, the film also features two of the best thespians in the world: Dench and Blanchett. The actresses' work is riveting and ratchets up the film's overall quality, yet there is nothing they can do to make their characters believable or sympathetic. It's not until late in the film that we begin to doubt the sanity of Dench's character as her histrionic fervor morphs into a clichéd rendering of an aggressive lesbian, and the music (by another “quality” name, Philip Glass) sounds more and more like a refined Bernard Herrmann score. On a certain level, *Notes on a Scandal* can be fun viewing, but, odds are, you'll find you won't respect yourself in the morning. (01/12/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square

★ **THE PAINTED VEIL**
D: John Curran; with Naomi Watts, Edward Norton, Liev Schreiber, Diana Rigg, Anthony Wong, Toby Jones. (PG-13, 125 min.)
This melodic adaptation of W. Somerset Maugham's novel is the story of many things – such as an epidemic in the rural corners of China, circa 1925 – but it is most of all the story of a marriage. British socialite Kitty (Watts) marries Walter Fane (Norton), a timid bacteriologist. “I think I improve greatly upon acquaintance,” he offers, but life together is boring despite a sojourn in Shanghai, China, where Kitty chases cheap

thrills with a fellow expat (Schreiber). The changes in China's political and cultural landscape mirror Kitty's and Walter's own hopes of redemption and vice versa. Meanwhile, Ron Nyswaner's ambitious script marries Hollywood appeal and literary sensibility. Beneath the veneer of pretty chinoiserie (Jones as a debauched civil servant gone native, the obligatory scene of Peking opera, and pastoral beauty shots by Stuart Dryburgh) there is a bitterly observant indie movie – acted with such venomous restraint that it hurts to watch. (12/29/2006) – Marrit Ingman
★★★★ Arbor

★ **PAN'S LABYRINTH**
D: Guillermo del Toro; with Ivana Baquero, Sergi López, Maribel Verdú, Ariadna Gil, Doug Jones, Alex Angulo, Roger Casamajor, César Vea. (R, 112 min., subtitled)
When fascism is the rule of the land, the only choices for its citizens are submission or covert resistance. For a child – powerless by definition – it is even more complicated. With *Pan's Labyrinth*, del Toro finds his fullest expression of these concerns and combines a melodrama of the psyche with the phantasmagoria of his own imagination to create the most original film of 2006. Set in Spain in 1944 during the waning moments of the country's brutal civil war, *Pan's Labyrinth* taps into this world of jackbooted repression and flights of fancy. The story's fairy tale aspects hew toward the dark disquiet these tales underscored in the decades before their Disneyfication took hold. There are no happily-ever-afters here despite the exquisite beauty inherent in the face of the young actress Baquero. *Pan's Labyrinth* catapults del Toro to the top ranks of international filmmakers. His fertile imagination appears to have no limit. (01/12/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★★↗ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Dobie

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS
D: Gabriele Muccino; with Will Smith, Jaden Christopher Syre Smith, Thandie Newton, Dan Castellaneta, Brian Howe, James Karen, Kurt Fuller. (PG-13, 117 min.)
If you've seen the trailer for *The Pursuit of Happiness*, you've seen a better version of the actual film. Based on a true story, the movie follows Chris Gardner (Smith), a self-made success who trained as a stockbroker while homeless and raising a young son on the streets of San Francisco. Although it's clear that their situation is bad, the filmmakers are relentless in their portrait of just how awful it is. As Gardner works incessantly to keep his dream alive and his son cared for, the humanity of his character remains absent. He ceases to be a person in exchange for a goal-oriented machine. Truly, Gardner's real-life story is one of unbelievable triumph against insurmountable odds, yet the film so relentlessly pursues the character's obstacles that when hope does come, it's simply a case of too little too late. And as likable as Smith is, his character is never fleshed out beyond that of the self-made superman. (12/15/2006) – Toddy Burton
★★ Cinemark Round Rock, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

★ **THE QUEEN**
D: Stephen Frears; with Helen Mirren, Michael Sheen, James Cromwell, Sylvia Syms, Alex Jennings, Helen McCrory, Roger Allam, Paul Barrett. (PG-13, 97 min.)
The *Queen* provides a glimpse of the British monarchy at a contemporary crossroads between supreme dominance and utter irrelevancy. Frears' movie is something of a backstage palace drama, a work of speculative history in which we are privy to some of the thoughts and conversations that might have occurred in the palace's inner chambers in 1997 during some particularly chaotic and unrehearsed moments of Queen Elizabeth II's

rule following the death of Diana, the "people's princess." The screenwriter, Peter Morgan, is also responsible for another movie out currently, *The Last King of Scotland*, and curiously, *The Queen* succeeds in its speculative history in ways that Morgan's Idi Amin drama never does. This story's tension derives specifically from the royal family's responsibility to show a public face at all times — a responsibility that grows ever more cumbersome and unrealistic in this electronic age. It also helps that Mirren is magnificent in the role. (10/27/2006) — *Marjorie Baumgarten*

SMOKIN' ACES

D: Joe Carnahan; with Ben Affleck, Jason Bateman, Common, Andy Garcia, Alex Rocco, Alicia Keys, Wayne Newton, Ray Liotta, Jeremy Piven, Ryan Reynolds. (R, 108 min.)

Follow closely: A cheesy Vegas illusionist turned mafioso (Piven) is marked for death after striking a prosecution deal. Enter the stalwart federal agents (Garcia, Liotta, and Reynolds), the

bail bondsmen (Affleck, Ryan Reynolds, and Peter Berg), the hookers, the entourage, the attorneys (Bateman and Curtis Armstrong), and myriad assassins who blow shit up real good. Ignore the limp dramatic bits, and a person could have a reasonably good time with this Tarantinoid actioner. Half the time the movie wants to be balls-out weird, and it is. But the other half is plodding procedural fare. The star attractions are the Tremor Brothers (Chris Pine, Kevin Durand, and Maury Sterling) — Mad Max types who eventually come blazing out of a smoke-filled hotel elevator waving machetes and chain saws. It's a breath-taking set-piece, but there's not actually much tension in the movie besides that which Carnahan achieves by cutting between his multiple subplots. (01/26/2007) — *Marrit Ingman*

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Lola

Lola (1981) D: Rainer Werner Fassbinder; with Barbara Sukowa, Armin Mueller-Stahl. (R, 113 min.) **Austin Cinematheque.** Lola is part of a trilogy of Fassbinder films (the other two are *The Marriage of Maria Braun* and *Veronika Voss*) that look at postwar Germany through the experiences of these female survivors. The story is also fashioned after the eternal Marlene Dietrich-Josf von Sternberg collaboration, *The Blue Angel*. @Texas Union Theatre, Monday, 7:30pm; free.



STOMP THE YARD

D: Sylvain White; with Columbus Short, Meagan Good, Ne-Yo, Darrin Henson, Brian J. White, Laz Alonso, Valerie Pettiford, Jermaine Williams, Allan Louis, Harry J. Lennix. (PG-13, 109 min.)

Equal parts *Footloose*, *Drumline*, and 1,001 other movies about a poor kid from the wrong side of the tracks who's long on talent and rebelliousness but short on social graces and opportunity, *Stomp the Yard* won't ever be accused of breaking new ground; it's too busy entertaining to worry about being original. The film's hero, D.J. (Short), is a dancing prodigy

with a chip on his shoulder, who catches the eye of the gorgeous April (Good) and runs afoul of her angry boyfriend, Grant (Henson). Everyone will realize 15 minutes into the movie that a dance-off is brewing between Grant and D.J., between old and new. The path the film takes to get there is littered with clichés and shopworn manipulations, but the intervening dance sequences are so exciting, so captivating, so full of life, it's almost possible to forget you've seen this movie a hundred times before. (01/12/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

SXSW Animated Program

SXSW Animated Program D: Various. **SXSW Presents.** This collection features work from award-winning animation artists from Austin and beyond. @KLRU, Tuesday, 9pm.



UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

D: Paul Feig; with Lewis Black, Wilmer Valderrama, Tyler James Williams, Dyllan Christopher, Brett Kelly, Gina Mantegna, Quinn Shephard, Dominique Saldana, Paget Brewster, Rob Corddry, Jessica Walter. (PG, 89 min.)

The Breakfast Club in *The Terminal*? *Home Alone* meets *Planes, Trains & Automobiles*? Calling John Hughes: Former *Freaky* and *Geekster* Paul Feig has got your number. Feig, who went on to direct numerous TV episodes of *The Office* and *Arrested Development*, has now directed this holiday kids picture that's neither good enough to be an instant classic nor bad enough to disappear from video stores' seasonal rental shelves for many Christmases to come. *Unaccompanied Minors* is a pretty much by-the-numbers comedy about a half-dozen kids trapped by weather in an airport on Christmas Eve. They run amok, create havoc, share secrets, and plug Sharper Image products – all without terribly much imagination but effective execution nevertheless. *Unaccompanied Minors* isn't likely to become a frequent flyer, but it could strike a chord among children of divorce for many holiday seasons to come. (12/08/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★ Millennium, Round Rock

★ VENUS

D: Roger Michell; with Peter O'Toole, Leslie Phillips, Vanessa Redgrave, Richard Griffiths, Jodie Whittaker. (R, 95 min.)

As O'Toole plays him in an Oscar-caliber performance, elderly British thespian Maurice Russell would very much rather fuck his way off this mortal plain, embraced by and embracing the female form, but he dwindles away his days playing bit parts and drinking at the local pub. His equally frail buddy Ian announces one day that his wayward niece, Jessie (Whittaker), has been sent to stay with him. Ian's dyspeptic reaction to this exiled intruder allows Maurice the opportunity to meet the girl. She warily confides in Maurice that she wants to be a model, but instead of laughing, Maurice secures her employment as an artist's model in a life-drawing class. Only the perpetually suave O'Toole could pull off the tricky May-December relationship at the heart of *Venus*, and newcomer Whittaker holds her own against the icon. The quiet respect *Venus* displays toward lions in winter is rare enough; the film's respect for unfinessed lionesses-to-be is rarer still. (01/26/2007) – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Arbor

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D: Various. *SXSW Presents* is excited to present a new program dedicated specifically to animated shorts. This collection features work from award winning artists from Austin and beyond.

FEB. 27, 9PM
SXSW Shorts: Reel Shorts
D: Various. This year's shorts collection gives viewers a peek at the diversity and sheer talent from today's short-film storytellers showcased at our festival.

★ VOLVER

D: Pedro Almodóvar; with Penélope Cruz, Carmen Maura, Lola Dueñas, Blanca Portillo, Yohana Cobo, Chus Lampreave, Antonio de la Torre, Carlos Blanco, María Isabel Díaz. (R, 121 min., subtitled)

No working male director loves the community of women more than Almodóvar, and *Volver* is his ode of love to women's congress and fortitude. A delightful blend of melodrama and comedy, the film is the most luscious yet restrained example of the filmmaker's recent work. *Volver* also returns Cruz to the Almodóvar fold, and the actress has never been more magnificent. Her performance is captivating – not only as we gaze at her glorious body (which is celebrated from every angle by Almodóvar's camera) but as she emerges as a real person with money trouble, husband trouble, sister squabbles, parenting problems, and unresolved issues from her past. Although the film is realistic, Almodóvar's touch of the absurd and the mad-cap infiltrates everything, and his candy-colored visual palette lends a brightness to what in other hands might have taken the form of a sordid tale. (01/12/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Metropolitan, Westgate

WE ARE MARSHALL

D: McG; with Matthew McConaughey, Matthew Fox, Anthony Mackie, David Strathairn, Ian McShane, Kate Mara, Kimberly Williams-Paisley, January Jones. (PG, 127 min.)

There are football movies, and then there's this gridiron weepie, which should be penalized for roughing the viewer. Helmer McG's full-throttle, swish-pan stylings dominate this true story of a chartered-jet crash that killed all but four of the 1970 Marshall University Thundering Herd. The tragedy has been slavishly translated to the sports-movie formula by newbie scribes Jamie Linden and Cory Helms. There's a hesitant administrator (Strathairn), a Guy Who Quits (Huntley Ritter), quietly supportive wives (Jones and Williams-Paisley), and bone-crunching footage – all of it handsome – of the underdogs' training and rebuilding season. More mechanical than nuanced, the movie gives us one naysayer (McShane). With 75 people dead – an entire chunk of a small West Virginia town – circumspection seems appropriate, but the movie will have none of that foolishness. It wants you to pump your fist and cheer your grief away, no exceptions. (12/22/2006) – Marrit Ingman

★★ Round Rock

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The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.



THURSDAY 1 5

Flicker Film Festival *D: Various.* **HBMG Foundation.** Celebrate the sixth anniversary of this bimonthly showcase for short films from Austin and beyond. As part of the festivities, Flicker will also screen home videos of birthday parties, so send any good footage you have their way. For complete info, see www.hbmgfoundation.org/flicker. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

Love Bites: The 80s Power Ballads Sing-Along Hosted by Owen Eggerton and Henri Mazza, this sing-along puts the bite on the Valentine's season. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

The Boogeyman (1980) *D: Ulli Lommel; with Suzanna Love, Ron James, John Carradine, Nicholas Love. (R, 82 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** A mirror that witnessed a murder years earlier wreaks havoc when smashed into shards in this film directed by horror master Lommel, who was also a regular Fassbinder actor. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

SPACES

Bonnie and Clyde (1967) *D: Arthur Penn; with Warren Beatty, Faye Dunaway, Gene Hackman, Estelle Parsons, Michael J. Pollard. (NR, 111 min.)* **Waterloo Video.** Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

FRIDAY 1 6

Love Bites: The 80s Power Ballads Sing-Along @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid. (See Thu., 2/15.)

Spike & Mike's Sick & Twisted Festival of Animation 2007 *D: Various. (NR, 84 min.)* The boys are back with their hyper-filthy animation show and stage antics. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

Titanic (abbreviated) (1997) *D: James Cameron; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Winslet. (PG-13, 90 min.)* **Master Pancake Theatre.** Whittled down to a 90-minute running time, the Alamo's briefer *Titanic* will serve as fodder for John Erler's newly formed comedy outfit that cracks gags about the movies so you don't have to. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 10.

SATURDAY 1 7

Runners High (2006) *D: Justine Jacob and Alex D. da Silva. (NR, 86 min.)* **AT&T and the Austin Marathon.** Get inspiration for the marathon with this documentary about four teens from Oakland, Calif.'s tough neighborhoods who train for a marathon and learn to accept responsibility. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 1:30pm.

Spike & Mike's Sick & Twisted Festival of Animation 2007 @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid. (See Fri., 2/16.)

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin *Rocky Horror* fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for 30 years straight. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

Titanic (abbreviated) (1997) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 10. (See Fri., 2/16.)

SUNDAY 1 8

Battlestar Galactica *D: Ronald D. Moore; with Edward James Olmos, Mary McDonnell, Jamie Bamber, Katee Sackhoff.* **TV Party.** Free. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm.

Moulin Rouge Sing-Along (2001) *D: Baz Luhrmann; with Nicole Kidman, Ewan McGregor. (PG-13, 127 min.)* If Nicole can do it, so can you. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

Sounds Seen: The VJ Competition Livid Union/Livid Instruments and AT&T. The VJ competition features live performers who manipulate, edit, and tweak video in time to a live local DJ's music. Audience votes for who takes home the cash prize. For more info on the competition, see www.soundsseen.com. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

SPACES

Cookin' Good With the Cola Sisters Arcie and Shasta present some of the best of their access TV show. @Spiderhouse Patio Bar, 9pm; free.

GoodFellas (1990) *D: Martin Scorsese; with Robert De Niro, Ray Liotta, Joe Pesci, Lorraine Bracco, Paul Sorvino. (R, 146 min.)* **Italian Movie Night.** Hosted by cut-up Jerm Pollet and featuring Sunday-only Italian-food specials. (*) @Belmont, 8pm.

MONDAY 1 9

24 TV Party. Commercial-free, back-to-back episodes. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm; free.

Eddie Murphy Raw (1987) *D: Robert Townsend; with Eddie Murphy, Samuel L. Jackson, John Lafayette. (R, 93 min.)* Murphy's stand-up comedy act is captured on film and should provide a good reminder of his comic stylings of yore prior to the opening of his shape-shifting *Norbit* and his probable Oscar win for playing *Dreamgirls'* soul man. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

Liquid Vinyl (2005) *D: Taylor Neary. (NR, 80 min.)* **Music Monday.** This documentary homage to the superstar club DJs will be preceded by a deep-house set from DJs Trey Lopez and Toddy B. from Slow Motion Music. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

Lola (1981) See p.92.

SPACES

An Affair to Remember (1957) *D: Leo McCarey; with Cary Grant, Deborah Kerr. (NR, 115 min.)* **Waterloo Video.** Free. @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

Fando y Lis (1968) *D: Alejandro Jodorowsky; with Sergio Kleiner, Diana Mariscal. (NR, 93 min.)* **I Luv Video.** free @Spiderhouse Patio Bar, 9pm.

The War Tapes (2006) *D: Deborah Scranton. (NR, 97 min.)* **Democracy for Texas.** This documentary gives voice to U.S. National Guard soldiers in Iraq. RSVP at www.dfalink.com/event.php?id=17498. (*) @Scholz Garten, 7pm.

TUESDAY 2 0

Darkon (2006) *D: Luke Meyer and Andrew Neel. (NR, 89 min.)* Lurking in the dark soccer fields of Baltimore, warriors battle for a vast empire. An audience and critical favorite at SXSW 06, *Darkon* takes a glimpse at the new *Dungeons and Dragons*, with foes of stay-at-home dads and office managers. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm.

Iron Island (2005) See p.90.

Polyester (1981) *D: John Waters; with Divine, Tab Hunter, Mary Vivian Pearce, Mink Stole, Stiv Bators. (R, 86 min.)* **Odorama.** John Waters' first "mainstream" film stars Divine as a suburban housewife who is driven to the point of distraction by her family and her surroundings. Waters released the film in Odorama: scratch-and-sniff cards that contained such odors as human fecal smells and other bodily aromas. How could the Alamo say no to that? (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles II: The Secret of the Ooze (1991) *D: Michael Pressman; with Paige Turco, David Warner, Mark Caso, Michelan Sisti, Leif Tilden, Kenn Scott, Ernie Reyes Jr, François Chau, Vanilla Ice. (PG, 88 min.)* **Pizza Party.** The movie plus all-you-can-eat pizza and radioactive ooze dessert. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

SPACES

Greetings (1968) See p.90.

Harold and Maude (1972) *D: Hal Ashby; with Ruth Gordon, Bud Cort, Vivian Pickles, Ellen Geer. (PG, 90 min.)* **Waterloo Video.** Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

Razor's Edge I Luv Video. free @Spiderhouse Patio Bar, 9pm.

SXSW Animated Program See p.92.

WEDNESDAY 2 1

Bad Ronald (1974) *D: Buzz Kulik; with Scott Jacoby, Pippa Scott, John Larch, Dabney Coleman, Kim Hunter, John Fiedler. (NR, 74 min.)* **Weird Wednesday.** TV movie about a family who moves into a house that is already occupied by a psychopathic murderer. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

For the Love of Dolly (2006) *D: Tai Uhlmann. (NR, 56 min.)* A hit at aGLIFF, this documentary trains its eye on five devout Parton fans, whose obsession goes beyond the everyday fanaticism. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

Lost (2007) TV Party. No commercials, back-to-back screenings of last week's episode followed by the newest. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm; free.

Open Screen Night Something along the lines of an open-mic night, the Alamo's long-running Open Screen Night invites people to come and show their best videos (under 10 minutes in length) on the big screen. Any entry may be gonged after the first three minutes, but a \$100 cash prize will be awarded for the favorite clip of the night, and a free beer will go to anyone who brings in something to watch. See www.originalalamo.com for full rundown @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

SPACES

The Departed (2006) *D: Martin Scorsese; with Jack Nicholson, Leonardo DiCaprio, Matt Damon, Mark Wahlberg, Ray Winstone, Martin Sheen, Vera Farmiga, Alec Baldwin. (R, 149 min.)* Free. @Beerland, 7pm.

The Texas Chainsaw Massacre and The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2 I Luv Video. In honor of Joey Flower's birthday. @Spiderhouse Patio Bar, 9pm.

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Deep Sea 3D (2006) *D: Howard Hall; narrated by Johnny Depp, Kate Winslet. (G, 40 min.)* Fabulous underwater footage complements this educational documentary geared toward kids. Instead of using the dog-eat-dog approach common to nature docs, *Deep Sea 3D* emphasizes the harmonious balance of the underwater ecosystem.

Hurricane on the Bayou (2006) (NR, 40 min.) Narrated by Meryl Streep, *Hurricane on the Bayou* started production before Katrina and switched gears after the catastrophe. The films tells the stories of four musicians, highlighted by a jazz, blues, and gospel New Orleans score.

Ride Around the World: A Cowboy Adventure (2006) *D: Harry Lynch. (NR, 40 min.)* The history of horse-and-cowboy culture in the West is traced back 1,500 years in this big-screen documentary. Made by local filmmakers, the film also features music by Brian Satterwhite.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips.

Offscreen

Austin Woman's Film, Music, and Literary Festival: Call for Entries The festival, formerly known as Blowin' Up a Spot!: A Woman's Perspective, is having an open call for female filmmakers, musicians, actors, workshop presenters, spoken-word artists, and screenwriters to submit their work and perform. This event is wholly focused on the contributions of women, with a special emphasis on showcasing women of Latin, African, African-American, Asian, and Native American descent. See their Web site for details and applications. Deadlines: *Feb. 17 and March 17.* www.blowinupaspot.com.

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Indie Music Video Festival The sixth annual shindig shifts into high gear in all its cross-continent, cross-genre glory, looking for independent music videos of fewer than six minutes, on VHS, DVD, DV Codec (high res), and mini DV. (Screenings in 2006 included Vancouver, Victoria, Baltimore, Calgary, Toronto, Los Angeles, Austin, New York, Tel Aviv, London, and Chicago.) See their Web site for details. www.imvf.com/submissions.html.

Cine las Americas: Job Opportunities Nonpaid internship positions and paid staff positions are available. Internships: media relations coordinator, Web designer, copy editor, librarian. Paid positions: executive assistant, grant writer. See their Web site for more. www.cinelasamericas.org.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a new, state-of-the-art screening room, and, lucky you, they're opening it up on a rental basis to the public, which means you can finally toss out that old Sony Watchman you've been thrusting in potential distributors' mugs for the past three years. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, a surround-sound system, and supports Super-35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms – the works. They also have a "break room" suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. 322-0145. www.austinstudios.org.

Seeing Film Afresh Hey, film buffs, view and discuss a film a week using fresh perspectives on the visual, audio, dramatic, and thematic aspects of movies. Led by Richard Cutler, Ph.D. *Through Feb. 27. Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1458. \$135.* www.doughertyartscenter.org.

The Austin Movie Show: Film Tournament 3.0 Submit your short films to the *Austin Movie Show* for possible screening on local access TV at 6-8pm on Sunday nights, with a live screening to follow. Drama, comedy, docs – you name it. For submission details, check their Web site. www.austinnmovieshow.com.

William Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet (1996) D: Baz Luhrmann; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Claire Danes, Brian Dennehy, John Leguizamo, Pete Postlethwaite, Paul Sorvino, Diane Venora, Harold Perrineau, Jesse Bradford, Christina Pickles, Miriam Margolyes, M. Emmet Walsh, Vondie Curtis-Hall, Paul Rudd. (PG-13, 121 min.) **Waterloo Video.** Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

THURSDAY 22

Darkon (2006) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm. (See Tue., 2/20.)

Humanoids From the Deep (1980)
D: Barbara Peeters; with Doug McClure, Ann Turkel, Vic Morrow, Cindy Weintraub, Anthony Penya, Denise Galik, Linda Shayne. (R, 80 min.) **Terror Thursday.** Exploitation film whose theme of ecological mayhem remains pertinent while still providing an excuse for the humanoid creatures to strip girls from their bikini tops. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

Love Bites: The 80s Power Ballads Sing-Along @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm. (See Thu., 2/15.)

Moulin Rouge Sing-Along (2001) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm. (See Sun., 2/18.)

The O.C. TV Party. The series finale. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 7pm.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the March 2 issue is Monday, Feb. 19.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

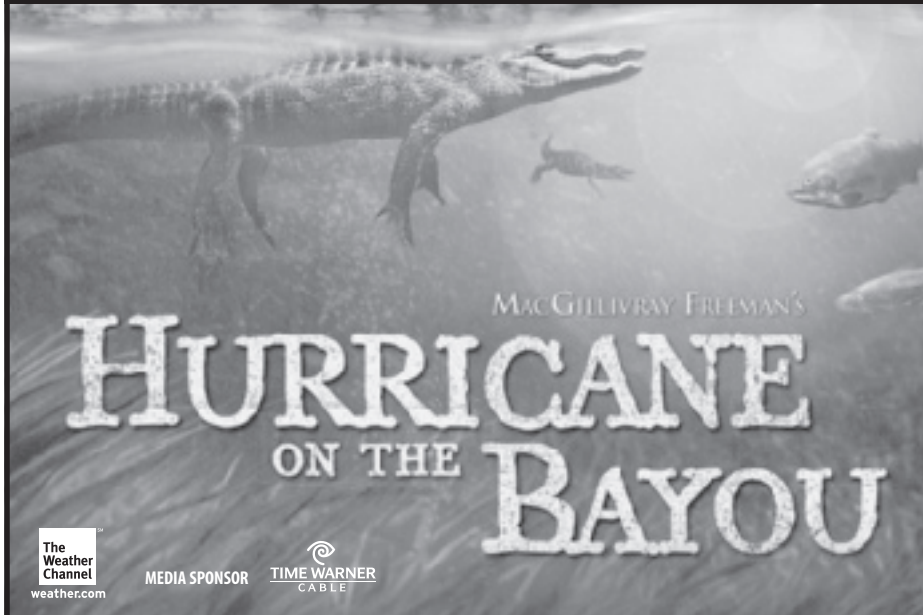
SPACES

Mediterraneo (1991) D: Gabriele Salvatores; with Diego Abatantuono, Claudio Bigagli. (R, 105 min.) **Il Circolo Italiano.** 1991's Academy Award winner for Best Foreign Film is based on a true story about a small troop of Italian soldiers abandoned on a Greek island while World War II rages on around them. (*) @MEZ B0.306 100 (basement of Mezes on the UT campus), 8pm; free.

Tristan & Isolde (2006) D: Kevin Reynolds; with James Franco, Sophia Myles, Rufus Sewell. (PG-13, 125 min.) **Waterloo Video.** Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

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<i>Deep Sea 3D</i>	1 & 7 pm	1, 7 & 9 pm	1 & 7 pm
<i>Ride Around the World</i>	12 & 3 pm	12 & 3 pm	3 pm
<i>Texas: The Big Picture</i>	10 am & 5 pm	10 am & 5 pm	5 pm

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Of Montreal EMO'S, FRIDAY 16



Atlanta's Kevin Barnes hit his creative stride a couple Of Montreal albums ago with *Satanic Panic in the Attic*, but he's now refined his creative vision such that his quintet's latest, *Hissing Fauna, Are You the Destroyer?* (Polyvinyl),

is a work of genius, blending overt Beatles influences with acid trails that burn the third eye. Even better, there's not an Outback jingle to be found. Japanese animal collective Elekbass and DJ Jester open.

— Melanie Haupt

Monsieur Jeffrey Evans, Ross Johnson SCOOT INN, FRIDAY 16/BEERLAND, SATURDAY 17

The names might not be familiar, but the credentials are platinum as far as Memphis legends go. Jeffrey Evans, leader of blues rockers the Gibson Brothers and incendiary Memphis stompers '68 Comeback, which featured local harmonica man Walter Daniels, joins Ross Johnson, longtime drummer for the inimitable Tav Falco's Panther Burns, for this rare Austin appearance. The Golden Boys, Hex Dispensers, Daniels, and more join the stew. You can also catch the whole shebang Saturday at Beerland, 8:30pm, before the Burnside Tribute, below.

— Audra Schroeder

Wormtone's Winter Wiggle Stomp

CONTINENTAL CLUB, FRIDAY 16 & SATURDAY 17



Ugly Beats

Given their mile-high pedigree, the vintage-minded tastemakers at Denver's Wormtone Records know all about the warming powers of surf guitar tremolo, rockabilly rave-ups, frat-house fuzztones, and hippy hippy shakes. We can't promise actual winter wiggling weather, but Wormtone's two-night Continental Club stomp is guaranteed to be white hot. Friday's lineup features the AquaSonics, Eddie Clendening, the Bellfuries,

and Long John Thomas & the Duffs. Saturday revs up with the Jungle Rockers, the Thunderchiefs, the Orangu-Tones, and the Ugly Beats.

— Greg Beets

R.L. Burnside Tribute BEERLAND, SATURDAY 17

When the late, great R.L. Burnside first visited Austin in the Nineties, he'd sit back in a chair and grin at the activity around him, amazed and maybe a little embarrassed by the attention. It's easy to imagine that grin even bigger when blues gurus Chili Cold Blood, James Brown channeler Black Joe Lewis, One Man Band John Schooley, and many more raise a can of whup-ass in his honor.

— Margaret Moser



John Schooley

AUBREY EDWARDS

In-Stores

Saturday: The **Golden Boys**, **Ross Johnson**, **Mr. Jeffrey Evans**, Antone's Records, 2pm; **Jupiter Mission**, End of an Ear, 6pm

Thursday: **Storyville**, Waterloo Records, 5pm; **Coke/Smith/Friedrich Trio**, End of an Ear, 7pm



Gojira

STUBB'S, SUNDAY 18

The passing of the torch from current metal heavyweights and Grammy nominees Lamb of God to France's next big thing, Gojira, took place backstage in Paris during the Unholy Alliance tour. "We started to light a fire in the dressing room," laughs Gojira guitarist Joe Duplantier, who once spent two years living in a cabin he built himself without electricity or running water. "We share the same kinds of feelings on nature."

Lamb of God growler Randy Blythe concurs. "We were using our primitive survival skills. I was teaching him how to make fire by friction."

After a decade of stomping around in France's underground scene, harnessing the power and energy of their eco-friendly brand of death metal, Gojira is finally ready to blaze trails in the States. "When you want to become a doctor or a lawyer, it takes about 10 years to learn your practice," Duplantier declares. "It's the same thing with a rock band."

Gojira's phenomenal new *From Mars to Sirius* (Prosthetic) is rich with the dual guitars of Duplantier and Christian Andreu, anchored by the rhythm section of bassist Jean-Michel Labadie and Joe's brother, drummer Mario Duplantier, recalling the punishing sounds of Sepultura and Meshuggah. There's only one catch.

"I believe aliens came onto this Earth and gave us life," Duplantier says of his surreal lyricism. "I know it's a bit strange, but I like to imagine things. There's nothing that proves aliens exist, but there's nothing that disproves it, either. I felt that was something worth exploring."

Regardless, this powerhouse tour, rounded out by Trivium and Machine Head with Lamb of God headlining, brings the pain. Blythe sums it up: "Anyone that's coming to the show should expect violence."

— Austin Powell

For extended interviews with all four bands, delve Into the Void at austinchronicle.com/musicblog.

The Roots, Lupe Fiasco STUBB'S, TUESDAY 20

The Roots don't need a recommendation — Jay-Z picked the Philly-based outfit for his backing band. The platinum collective was the first hip-hop group to perform at Lincoln Center. They were the house band for *Dave Chappelle's Block Party*. And they're Grammy vets, with their ninth album, the heavy *Game Theory* (Def Jam), getting two nods. Chicago's prodigy MC Lupe Fiasco justifies the buzz behind his Atlantic debut, *Food & Liquor*.

— David Lynch

Red Sparowes, My Education EMO'S, WEDNESDAY 21

A perfect pairing of all-encompassing instrumental rock. Red Sparowes' latest, *Every Red Heart Shines Toward the Red Sun*, soars above and beyond the aural terrain of their affiliates in Isis and Neurosis, swiftly rising and falling with graceful beauty, while local sextet My Education, whose *Moody Dipper* features a remix of "Snake in the Grass" courtesy of the headliners, establishes its own sense of ambience, calculated and climactic. Metal duo Me Infecto opens.

— Austin Powell

The Championship, Driftin' Luke TROPHY'S, WEDNESDAY 21

Like something from a vintage AM-radio dial, Driftin' Luke, one of the many personalities of the Channel's Colby Pennington, is a natural and prolific storyteller whose nostalgic, experimental pop is rich with a heartfelt sense of tradition and familial values. Milwaukee's best, the Championship, goes down smoother than "The Beast." The quartet's self-released *Dance Casador!* is a swig of rustic, acoustic-based Americana, while locals the Come Latelys open with their own bottleneck blues.

— Austin Powell

Oliver Rajamani, the Places PEACOCK, THURSDAY 22

Globetrotter Oliver Rajamani warms up this Eastside hodgepodge. Presenting the finest folk sounds from India to Spain, the local multi-instrumentalist does *qawwali* as well as flamenco, followed by the deliciously fucked-up folk of the Places and closed out by Miss Angeliska on the ethereal ocean harp. DJs and visual artists also in tow. Leave genre definitions at the door, please.

— David Lynch

Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

COCO MONTOYA
Antone's, Friday 16

Dirty Deals, done by Coco.

FUCKEMOS
Scout Inn, Saturday 17

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TIL WE'RE BLUE OR DESTROY, AWESOME COOL DUDES
Independence Brewery, Saturday 17

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Daniel Francis Doyle, the Bellfuries, and Dana Falconberry together for a good cause.

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SAT 17

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MON 19 - Kountoupis Brothers • Jeff Daily • Emile Millar
TUE 20 - Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory
WED 21 - Tucker Livingston • David Hamburger
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THU 22 - Blacktop Bend • Plum Tucker and Friends • Mockingbirds
FRI 23 - LZ Love and Lightning Red (CD Release- Acoustic Duo)
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THE ARAB LEAGUE 10PM
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MON. FEB. 19TH
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iKILLcArS 11PM
THE STRAND 10PM

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TUCKER LIVINGSTON 6:30PM

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NORTH BY NORTHWEST, 10010 Capital of TX Hwy., 467-6969
NUEVO LEON, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097
NUNO'S ON SIXTH, 422 E. Sixth, 833-5133
NUTTY BROWN CAFE, 12225 Hwy. 290 W., 301-4648
THE OAKS, 10206 N. FM 973, 278-8788
THE OASIS, 6550 Comanche Trail, 266-2442
THE OFF CENTER, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833
THE OFFICE LOUNGE, 1207 Leander Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-1137
THE OLD ALLIGATOR GRILL, 3003 S. Lamar, 444-6117
ONE WORLD THEATRE, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500
OPAL DIVINE'S PENN FIELD, 3601 S. Congress Ste. K-100, 707-0237
PARAMOUNT THEATRE, 713 Congress, 472-5470
PARDNERS, 1110 Palm Valley, Round Rock, 512/244-1204
THE PARISH, 214 E. Sixth, 479-0474
THE PARLOR, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965
PARMER LANE TAVERN, 2121 Parmer, #1, 339-0663
THE PEACOCK, 515 Pedernales, 276-8979
PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318
POODLE DOG LOUNGE, 6507 Burnet Rd., 465-9468
THE PUB, 1826 Mays, Round Rock, 512/246-8007
RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577
RADISSON, 111 E. Cesar Chavez, 478-9611
RANCH 616, 616 Nueces, 479-7616
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Research, 335-5115
RED 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100
RED EYED FLY, 715 Red River, 474-1084
RED FEZ, 2029 W. Fifth, 478-5120
REDRUM, 401 Sabine, 469-0691
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB, 9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 342-7977
RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK, 2120 N. Mays #100, Round Rock, 512/246-9444
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 301 San Jacinto, 476-8300
RIVERBEND CENTRE, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 327-9416
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ROOM 710, 710 Red River, 476-0997
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE, 11800 Lamar, 835-2414
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SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 11416 RR 620 N., 401-2060
SIX LOUNGE, 117 W. Fourth, 472-6662
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TAVERN IN THE GRUENE, 830 Gruene Rd., Gruene, 830/608-0438
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THE ARTISTS MARKET, 715 W. Sixth (Mother Egan's), 535-5761
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
THONY'S VINEYARD, 2828 Rio Grande, 476-5600
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TRIUMPH CAFE, 3808 Spicewood Springs, 343-1875
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
UNCLE FLIRTY'S, 325 E. Sixth, 473-8891
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 804-1944
THE WATER TANK, 7309 McNeil, 331-9831
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE WEST, 6203 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 418-9700
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH, 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500
WHISKY BAR, 303 W. Fifth, 481-8599
WOODY'S SOUTH, 321 W. Ben White, 851-9663
Y BAR & GRILL, 7720 Hwy. 71 W., 394-0220
ZTEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355



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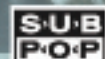
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WITH SPECIAL GUEST VIVA VOCE

MARCH 7



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AUSTIN, TX 78701

MAR 07
DOORS 6:00PM
SHOW 7:00PM
THE SHINS
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baseband
2-time Grammy winner's soul satisfying new album
IN STORES NOW!
MAR 31 DOORS 7:00PM

BIG HEAD TODD AND THE MONSTERS
with special guest
RECKLESS KELLY
THIS FRIDAY
FEB 16 DOORS 8:00PM

AN EVENING WITH
OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW
FEB 24 DOORS 8:00PM

switchfoot
COPELAND
MAR 24

MAR 16
LAST OF THE BREED
WILLIE NELSON
MERLE HAGGARD
RAY PRICE
BOTH SHOWS SOLD OUT!

APR 14
DOORS 6:30PM
SHOW 8:00PM
ZZ TOP
TICKETS ON SALE SATURDAY AT 10AM!

PLAIN WHITE T'S
BOYS NIGHT OUT
APR 01

TV ON THE RADIO
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
NOISETTES
APR 05

TED & LEO
AND THE PHARMACISTS
APR 07

MUTEMATH
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
+ THE CINEMATICS
+ SOMEBODY STILL LOVES YOU
BORIS YELISIN
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MAY 03 DOORS 7:00PM

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TICKETS ON SALE
SATURDAY
AT 10AM!



IN CONCERT

APRIL 14



THE BACKYARD

LIVE OAK AMPHITHEATRE



AT
THE GLENN AND THE BACKYARD
SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2007

FREE ADMISSION

DOORS: 2PM

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDING:
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PLUS
BILLY HARVEY
KACY CROWLEY
ROCK CAMP AUSTIN

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SEE WHERE THE STARS RELAX BEFORE THE SHOW

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FRI 2/16 • 10PM
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SAT 2/17 • 10PM
BLAGGARDS

SUN 2/18
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PSYCHOGRASS (DAROL ANGER, MIKE MARSHALL, TODD PHILLIPS, TONY TRISCHKA, DAVID GRIER)
BIG SANDY & LOS STRAITJACKETS - ROBBIE FULKS & DANNY BARNES
HONKYTONK HOMESLICE (FEATURING BILL NERSHI OF STRING CHEESE INCIDENT)
PETER ROWAN - RUTHIE FOSTER - DARRELL SCOTT - MARY GAUTHIER
JIM LAUDERDALE - JOHN COWAN BAND - GRUPO FANTASMA
SAMANTHA MILLER - RED STICK RAMBLERS - GREEN MOUNTAIN GRASS
FLOUNDERS WITHOUT EYES - SLAID CLEAVES - CLASSICAL GRASS
SARAH BORGES & THE BROKEN SINGLES - SARAH JAROSZ
KAREN ABRAHAMS - SLIM RICHEY AND KAT'S MEOW

CAMPING, JAMMING, KIDS' ACTIVITIES, ARTS & CRAFTS, YOUTH TALENT
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Artists Subject to Change

club listings

Thu 15

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Ed Jurdi (3:30)
ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR Graham Weber (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH Eric Hisaw (12:30)
ANTONE'S Carolyn Wonderland, Ruthie Foster CD Release
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Paula Held
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Trent Turner
BEAUTY BAR DJ Tats, Zookeeper
BEERLAND Matt Oliver of Sound Team
BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal (7:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes
BROWN BAR mr.ripley
BUDDY'S PLACE Justin Trevino
BUFFALO EXCHANGE Anthony Fuller, Monster Sleeps Quiet (8:30)
CACTUS CAFE Porter Davis
CAFE MUNDI Seahorse, Word/Jazz Low Stars (6:00)
CANTINA LAREDO Cienfuegos (6:00)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Hummingbirds, Backsliders
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Rick Turcotte (5:30), Wade Bowen (8:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Paris '49 (10:00); In the Club: Mother Truckers (6:30), the Stingers ATX, Flametrick Subs (10:00)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
CORK & CO. WorldCamps Benefit, Wine Tasting w/ Abi Tapia (5:00)
COTTON CLUB Texas All-Stars (8:30)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S Bill Jerram, the Dialtones (8:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Gaila Kenneally Trio, Dr. Paul White Quintet
EMO'S Inside: Dirty Crates Crew, Notion, 20/20 & Poise Crew54, Black Sheep; Lounge: The Promise Breakers
EVANGELINE CAFE George Enslé (7:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA DJ Richard Gear, Dance of Days, Mr. & Mrs. Mays, War Against Sleep (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Johann Wagner's Songwriter Triangle w/ Idgy Vaughn, Mo Pair; Stefanie Fix
FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE Joe Gee (6:30)
FRIENDS DJ Atlas
GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Ted Roddy
GRUENE HALL Grant Ewing (6:00)

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

HELLO, CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is Monday, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159; or e-mail clubs@austinchronicle.com.

HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man
HEADHUNTERS Ruby's Jazz Garage, Three Pot Offy, the Humiliators, the Skeletons, Earthtone Players, Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings
HILL'S CAFE Steven Franks
HOLE IN THE WALL Stayton Bonner, the Normans, the Tangle, Kevin McKinney, Audrey Hepburn Heroine (6:00)
HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian
JAZZ Matt Wilson (10:30)
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA PALAPA Latin at Heart
LAMBERTS Christine Albert (6:30), Best Love in Town (10:30)

roadshows

FEBRUARY

THU 15

Wade Bowen, Cheatham Street Warehouse
Black Sheep, 20/20 & Poise Crew54, Notion, Dirty Crates Crew, Emo's
Matt Wilson, Jazz
Little Brazil, the Mohawk
Randall Bramblett, Catfish Whisky, the Parish

FRI 16

Coco Montoya, Antone's
Something Fierce, Steppin' Razor, Beerland
That Damned Band, Cafe Mundi
Aquasonics, Eddie Clendening & the Blue Ribbon Boys, Long John Thomas & the Duff, Continental Club
Outside: **Of Montreal**, **Elekibass**, **DJ Jester the Filipino Fist**; Inside: **El Paso Hot Button**, Emo's
Andrew Walker, Flipnotics Coffeespace
Matt Wilson, Jazz
Big Head Todd & the Monsters, La Zona Rosa
Monsieur Jeffrey Evans, **Ross Johnson**, Scoot Inn
Van Gunn, **Max Cady**, Trophy's

SAT 17

Monsieur Jeffrey Evans, **Ross Johnson**, Antone's Records
Ross Johnson, **Monsieur Jeffrey Evans**, Beerland
Rah Amen, **Umoja Percussion Ensemble**, **Fumihito Sugawara**, **Big Chief Kevin & the Flaming Arrows**, **Crucial**, Casa de Luz
Snatam Kaur Khalsa, Central Presbyterian Church
The Orangu-Tones, Continental Club
Miss Leslie & Her Juke-Jointers, Cotton Club
Outside Early: **Cartel**, **Cobra Starship**, **Boys Like Girls**, **Permanent Me**; Inside Later: **Evangelicals**, **Abby Birds**, Emo's
Gill Landry, Flipnotics Coffeespace
Ese, **Headhunters**
Matt Wilson, Jazz
Frogg Marlowe, Mozart's Coffee Roasters
Glen Campbell, Riverbend Centre
RAQ & EOTO, Stubb's

SUN 18

Billy Pitman, **Izzy Cox**, Continental Club
Gospel Silvertones, Maria's Taco Xpress

Eroica Trio, One World Theatre
Outside: **Lamb of God**, **Trivium**, **Machine Head**, **Gojira**; Inside Later: **Course of Ruin**, Stubb's

TUE 20

The Archibalds, Cafe Mundi
Leatherhand, Darwin's Pub
Kodo Drummers, Paramount Theatre
The Roots, **Lupe Fiasco**, Stubb's
WED 21
Irish Brothers, Beerland
Lounge: **Subtle**; Inside: **Red Sparowes**, Emo's
Chingo Bling, the Parish
Druggist, **Mama Speedheart**, Room 710
Baby Grams, Threadgill's World HQ
The Championship, Trophy's

THU 22

Howlin' Houndog, Carousel Lounge
Deguello, Continental Club
Mic Harrison, Emo's
Euforquestra, Flamingo Cantina
Matt Wilson, Jazz
Zenith Fuzzbomb, Room 710
Green Lemon, Stubb's

for your benefit

THU 15

WorldCamps Benefit, Wine Tasting w/ Abi Tapia, **Cork & Co.**

SAT 17

Austin International Music Extravaganza w/ Big Chief Kevin & the Flaming Arrows, Fumihito Sugawara, Umoja Percussion Ensemble, Rah Amen, **Casa de Luz**

Groundwork Music Project Benefit w/ DJ Orion, DJ Jazz One, Awesome Cool Dudes, 'Til We're Blue or Destroy, **Independence Brewery**

SUN 18

George Showalter Benefit w/ Dana Flaconberry, the Belfuries, Daniel Francis Doyle, **the Parlor**

See austinchronicle.com
for complete listings.

DAUGHTRY



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 - DOORS 7PM

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ALL AGES,
ALL THE TIME

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

INSIDE: BLACK SHEEP • 20/20 & POISE
CREW54 • NOTION • DIRTY CRATES CREW
LOUNGE: FREE/21+ PRE-BOX THURSDAYS
SONGS OF LOVE & HATE WITH
THE PROMISE BREAKERS
SPECIAL GUEST TBA
INCREDIBLE DRINK SPECIALS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

OUTSIDE:



ELEKIBASS • DJ JESTER

INSIDE:

THOSE PEABODYS • UME
OH, BEAST! • EL PASO HOT BUTTON

LOUNGE:

SPANK DANCE COMPANY • HELLO LOVERS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

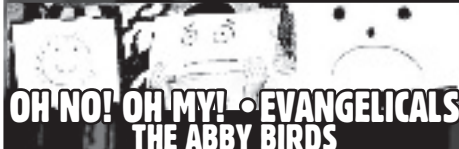
OUTSIDE: (DOORS @ 6PM):
PRESENTED BY ENERGIZER

CARTEL

**COBRA
STARSHIP**

BOYS LIKE GIRLS • PERMANENT ME
TICKETS AVAILABLE

INSIDE:



OH NO! OH MY! • EVANGELICALS
THE ABBY BIRDS

WHITE DENIM TICKETS AVAILABLE

LOUNGE: **SOUL CLUB**
DJ NIGHT FEATURING VINTAGE
SOUL & GARAGE FREE/21+

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

PAPERWORK • THE NORMANS
MOTHS GET CRUSHED
DOORS 8PM, SHOW 9PM

FEBRUARY 19-20 CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

INSIDE: **RED SPAROWES**
(MEMBERS OF ISIS/NEUROSIS)
MY EDUCATION • ME INFECTO
TICKETS AVAILABLE

LOUNGE: **SUBTLE**

CRY BLOOD APACHE • THE COCKERSPANELS
TICKETS AVAILABLE

COMING SOON: • 3/21 CLIPSE • 3/28 ANAL CUNT (IN) / THE NEW TRUST (LOUNGE) • 3/29 XIU XIU / SHEARWATER • 3/30 DICKS (OUT) / RICHARD BUCKNER - FULL BAND (LOUNGE) • 3/31 PEEPING TOM FEAT. MIKE PATTON (OUT) / STREET DOGS (IN) / HOWLING HEX FEAT. NEIL HAGERTY (LOUNGE) • 4/6 RATATAT (OUT) / FU MANCHU (IN) • 4/13 ELECTRIC 6 (OUT) / BISHOP ALLEN (IN) • 4/14 SEBADOH • 4/16 BLOOD BROS (OUT) / TRANS AM (IN) • 4/17 ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE (IN) / LIGHTNING BOLT (LOUNGE) • 4/18 PONYS (OUT) / BRIGHTBACK MORNINGLIGHT (LOUNGE) • 4/19 APPLESEED CAST • 4/20 LUCERO (OUT) / ADULT (IN) • 4/21 TAPES N TAPES (OUT) / NEKROMANTIX (IN) • 4/23 HOT ROD CIRCUIT / LIMBECK • 4/26 LOCUST • 4/27 SUNSET RUBDOWN (SPENCER KRUG OF WOLF PARADE) • 5/3 MONO • 5/6 JOHN VANDERSLICE • 5/11 FROG EYES • 5/16 BROTHER ALI • 5/17-19 CHAOS IN TEJAS FEST

477-EMOS
603 RED RIVER

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

INSIDE: **LIL CAPN TRAVIS**
MIC HARRISON OF SUPERDRAG
THE LONESOME HEROES

LOUNGE: **FREE!**
PRE-TOX THURSDAY'S WITH
THE PROMISE BREAKERS
INCREDIBLE DRINK SPECIALS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

OUTSIDE: **THE SWORD**
LIONS OF TSAVO • HIGH COST OF LIVING
TICKETS AVAILABLE

INSIDE: **PROM NITE**
LALALAND • THE RED LEAVES
THE BOXING LESSON

LOUNGE: MARS WARS • THE NYMPH ECHO
LEGION • QUINN C & PROJECT DEAD
SILVERBACK JONZ • YADIRA BROWN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

INSIDE:

SOBER DAZE • SUMMER BLOOD
THE DICKENS • SWEET SKULL

LOUNGE: 9PM
PSYCHEDELIC SATURDAY WITH
OPPOSITE DAY • CONFUZATRON
ANCIENT FAULT LINES • THE DEAD THING

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

EARLY SHOW (DOORS 6:30, SHOW 7:00PM)
DYNAH • HUNDRED YEAR STORM
BROOKS CHAMBERS • BETWEEN THE TREES
THE CANVAS WAITING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

INSIDE: **BARR • MARNIE STERN**
FINALLY PUNK • DANIEL FRANCIS DOYLE

LOUNGE: **ALOHA** (POLYVINYL)
POMPEI • THE POLITICS • LOW LINE CALLER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

FREE SHOW!!! 18+ ONLY
BROTHERS AND SISTERS
THE BROKEN WEST • GLASS FAMILY
(MERGE RECORDS)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

OUTSIDE:

ISIS

JESU (EX GODFLESH) **TORCHE**
TICKETS AVAILABLE

INSIDE:

**GRIZZLY
BEAR**

PAPERCUTS • PETER & THE WOLF
TICKETS AVAILABLE

*TICKETS ARE SOLD ONLINE AT www.emosaustin.com
OR YOU CAN BUY THEM AT WATERLOO RECORDS & END OF AN EAR RECORDS

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

DEAD PREZ • UMI (P.O.W.)
ZEALE 32 • JUST BORN
TICKETS AVAILABLE

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

DOORS 8PM, SHOW 9PM, OUTSIDE:



CRUISERWEIGHT (CD RELEASE PARTY)
BORN TO LOSE • SEAN AND ADRIAN
(DYNAMITE BOY REVISITED)
DRIVER F • FALL COLLECTION

INSIDE:
WORLD BURNS TO DEATH • SIGNAL LOST
STORM THE TOWER • HERE COMES TROUBLE

LOUNGE:
MARIA TAYLOR OF AZURE RAY
(SADDLE CREEK)
MIKE BOOHER & CATHERINE DAVIS OF ZYKOS
THE LOVELY SPARROWS
TICKETS AVAILABLE

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

OUTSIDE:



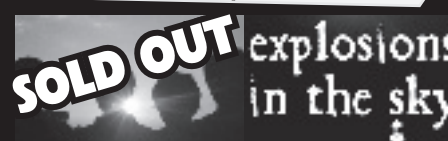
WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS
DR. DOG • THE TEETH
TICKETS AVAILABLE

DOORS 8PM, SHOW 9PM, INSIDE:
AMERICAN'S '20'S MUSIC SERIES FEATURING
EPIHEMERATA FAMILY BAND
THE WHITE GHOST SHIVERS
PLUS KITTY KITTY BANG BANG & A 1920'S FASHION SHOW

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

DOORS 6PM, SHOW 7PM
THE MERCERS • THE LAST GASP • CORTO MALTESE

MONDAY, MARCH 5



ELUVIUM

TUESDAY, MARCH 6 CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

EARLY SHOW: DOORS 5, SHOW 5:30
MONEEN • PISTOLITA • DEMERIA • TOMORROW'S
TOO LATE TICKETS AVAILABLE

LATER IN THE EVENING...

INSIDE: **SPINTO BAND • DIOS • THE CHANGES**
TICKETS AVAILABLE
LOUNGE: **INVINCIBLE CZARS • BEE VS. MOTH**
(CD RELEASE) **GOLDEN ARM TRIO**

THURSDAY, MARCH 8



BRUJERIA
CEPHALIC CARNAGE
THE KRUMBUMS • PINNED
TICKETS AVAILABLE

LOUNGE: **THE GATHERING** FREE/21+

FRIDAY, MARCH 9



OUTSIDE:
DEERHOOF
MACROMANTICS • EXPERI-
MENTAL DENTAL SCHOOL
TICKETS AVAILABLE

INSIDE:
BARKHARD • DIXIE WASTE
ROGERS PORN COLLECTION • LOS DE VERDAD

LOUNGE:
A NIGHT OF COMEDY WITH
TODD BARRY
& **MATT BEARDEN**
DOORS 9PM, SHOW 10PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

OUTSIDE:



TICKETS AVAILABLE

INSIDE:
GRAND CHAMPEEN
CD RELEASE WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

LOUNGE: FREE SHOW / 21+
C-SIDE RECORDS PRESENTS
GOLDEN BEAR CD RELEASE PARTY
THE CHANNEL • SECRET SIDESHOW

CLOSED MARCH 11-12

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

3-STAGE
FREE SXSW KICK-OFF SHOW
FULL LINE-UP COMING SOON!

MARCH 14-18

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FOR DAY PARTY INFO

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Gospel SUN. 2/18 @ 11AM **Brunch**

DURDEN FAMILY
Brunch starts @ 10am; \$10.95 adults/\$4.95 kids

MON. 2/19 @ 8PM

ELIZABETH MCQUEEN & JASON ROBERTS
From Asleep At The Wheel

TUES. 2/20 @ 8PM

THE TEXAMERICANA SOCIAL HOUR
Barbara Kooyman, Richard Bowden, Thom the World Poet, Paul Percy, Nick Travis, Zhenya, Billy Bright and Shawn Saunders
"Ask not what radio can do for you, ask what YOU can do for radio."
EVERY TUESDAY IN FEBRUARY

WED. 2/21 @ 8PM

BABY GRAMPS
Coming In March....
3/8 - **CHRIS HILLMAN**
3/9 - **SAVOY BROWN** w/ **KIM SIMMONDS**
3/10 - **THE GREENCARDS** With **DAVID GRIER**
3/14 - **BOB SCHNEIDER'S TEXAS BLUEGRASS MASSACRE**
3/15 - **MARCIA BALL**
3/16 - **BOB SCHNEIDER**
3/24 - **THE GOURDS**
All tickets on sale thru

OLD No. 1
6416 N. LAMAR BLVD. 512.451.5440
TUES. 2/21 @ 7PM **No COVER**

TONY MASERATI
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Catfish Color T.V.

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LIVE MUSIC

THURSDAY FEB. 15 **8:00**
Reid Wilson and his So-Called Friends and **The Gunhands**

FRIDAY FEB. 16 **8:00**
Twanguero

TUESDAY FEB. 20 **8:00**
Redd Volkaert

WEDNESDAY FEB. 21 **8:00**
Austin Howl

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club listings << FROM FRIDAY

SHOAL CREEK SALOON Twanguero (8:00)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS The Accused (9:00)
THE STUDIO All U Need
TAMBALEO DJ Jah Mighty (6:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Digital Juke
TRIPLE CROWN New Texas Family, the Standing Few, Subtle Creeps
TRIUMPH CAFE Stonecastle Band (7:00)
TROPHY'S Max Cady, Gentlemen's Social Club, New Disaster, Van Gunn
UNCLE FLIRTY'S DJ Ashen Francis
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Carter Strumero (10:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Whisky Bar DJ Tats
WHISKY BAR DJ Tats
WOODY'S SOUTH Cheatin' Hearts, Three Leaf (7:00)

Sat 1 7

ANTONE'S PorterDavis, Rachel Loy, Patrice Pike (8:00)
ANTONE'S RECORDS Ross Johnson, Monsieur Jeffrey Evans (2:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Studebakers (7:30)
AUSTIN CITY HALL PLAZA Million Musicians March for Peace Post-Rally Show (1:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Alan Haynes
BEAUTY BAR The Lord Imperial, the Dresses, Faceless Werewolves
BEERLAND R.L. Burnside Tribute Show w/ the Golden Boys, Monsieur Jeffrey Evans, Ross Johnson, Chris Miller, Black Joe Lewis, Walter Daniels, John Schooley's One-Man Band, Chili Cold Blood (8:30)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOOMERZ Timmy & the Time Bombs
'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Alvin Crow
CACTUS CAFE Eric Hanke, Terri Hendrix (9:00)
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Dead Sweethearts' Anti-Valentine's Wake w/ Ted Roddy, Brennen Leigh, Susanna Van Tassel, Karen Poston, Jason Arnold, Brian Rise, Timmy Campbell
CASA DE LUZ Austin International Music Extravaganza w/ Crucial, Big Chief Kevin & the Flaming Arrows, Fumihito Sugawara, Umoja Percussion Ensemble, Rah Amen (7:33)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Cornell Hurd Band (6:30)

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Snatam Kaur Khalsa (7:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Brian Andrew Lee, Monte Montgomery
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio (10:00); In the Club: Redd Volkaert (3:00), Winter Wiggle Romp w/ the Ugly Beats, the Orangu-Tones, Thunderchiefs, Jungle Rockers (10:00)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lesson w/ Cesar & Rhonda, DJ Alvaro (9:00)
COTTON CLUB Miss Leslie & Her Juke-Jointers
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Mac Bynum (7:30)
DONN'S DEPOT Albert & Gage
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Abra Moore (8:00)
EGO'S Dead End Cowboys, the Dirty Sound, U-Joints (8:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Ephraim Owens Quintet
ELYSIUM Haven w/ DJ Void, the Gothfather
EMO'S Outside Early: Permanent Me, Boys Like Girls, Cobra Starship, Cartel (6:00); Inside Later: White Denim, Abby Birds, Evangelicals, Oh No! Oh My! Lounge: Soul Club (10:00)
END OF AN EAR Jupiter Mission (6:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA The Last Gasp, the Midgetmen, the Mercers (9:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Consumption Hooks, Kevin B., Gill Landry
FRIENDS Trent Turner
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Billy Dee
HANOVER'S Tyrone Vaughan, Pushmonkey (9:30)
HEADHUNTERS Bricks ATX, Streetlight Suzy, Ese, the Dropouts, Die Cobra, Last of the Intceptors, More Fire
HILL'S CAFE Ronnie Caywood
HOLE IN THE WALL Sally Semrad, the Kidney Stones, the Easies, Chalk Outlines (7:00)
INDEPENDENCE BREWERY Groundwork Music Project Benefit w/ DJ Orion, DJ Jazz One, Awesome Cool Dudes, 'Til We're Blue or Destroy (8:30)
IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Playin' With Syxx
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Bill Booth (9:00)
JAZZ Matt Wilson (10:30)
JOVITA'S Imbibe (3:00), Drew Smith, San Saba County (7:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)
LAMBERTS Marshall Ford Swing Band w/ Emily Gimble (6:30), Nakia With His Southern Cousins CD Release (10:30)
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Jolly Garogers, Anagen

THE MOHAWK Prayer for Animals, the Boxing Lesson, Teenage Symphony, the Shells
MOMO'S Parkers Break, Dave Madden, Graham Wilkinson
MOONRIVER Texas Boogie
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (11:00 am)
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS Frogg Marlowe (2:00)
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Natalie Zoe
NUTTY BROWN CAFE The Not Mother Band
THE OFF CENTER One Freak Show, Less Rock, More Hilarity w/ Lynnee Breedlove (8:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Diamond Simon & the Roughcuts (9:30)
THE PARISH Happy Bullets, Supercontinent, Aster, Low Line Caller
PLUSH Turntable Manners w/ DJ Tats, Dirty Harry
RADISSON Kent Mayhew
RED 7 Rubber Robot, Madcow, Sweet Skull, the Flood
RED EYED FLY Rubber Monster, Elvis on Speed, Dixie Witch, Broken Teeth
RED FEZ DJ Kurv (10:30)
REDRUM Soloist, Carcen, Burlesque for Peace
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Just Released (8:30)
RILEY'S TAVERN Omar & the Howlers
RIVERBEND CENTRE Glen Campbell w/ the Austin Symphony Orchestra
ROCKIN' TOMATO Diamond Simon & the Rough Cuts
ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Kirk Hale (6:30)
ROOM 710 Karaoke w/ Dead Motley Sex Maidens
RUTA MAYA World Carnival w/ Inside Out Steel Band, Academicos de Opera, Bombasta, Ghandia (8:00)
SAXON PUB Leeann Atherton's All-Day Barn Dance (4:00), Freddy Steady 5, Carolyn Wonderland (3:00)
SCOOT INN The Dickins, Roger's Porn Collection, Fuckemos
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke, Open Mic (9:00)
STUBB'S RAQ & EOTO
THE STUDIO Full of Soul
TAMBALEO DJ Kurupt, DJ Inverse (10:00)
THE ARTISTS MARKET Joe Gee (2:00)
TRIPLE CROWN The Carnys, Smoke Detector, Famby
UNCLE FLIRTY'S DJ Ashen
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Austin Family Jewels
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Isaac Strycker
WHISKY BAR DJ Chicken George & Donnie Dee (10:00)
WOODY'S SOUTH The Washingtons, Passed Out Flyers, Excess Lettuce

SMOKE SIGNAL 
UPCOMING EVENTS @ THE MOHAWK AUSTIN

Thursday 2.15
THE STORY OF, LITTLE BRAZIL, AUX, BENKO

Friday 2.16
AMY COOK CD RELEASE, featuring: MICHAEL KINGCAID (OF WMMF) & JOSH BINGAMAN

Saturday 2.17
TEENAGE SYMPHONY, BOXING LESSON, PRAYER FOR ANIMALS

Thursday 2.22
PINK NASTY, HONOR FARM, JUST GUNS

Friday 2.23
HOTEL, HOTEL, DIVIDED LIKE A SAINTS, SHE, SIR

Saturday 2.24
THE SWELLS, MOCKERY BIRDS, THE PAPER, QUIET CO

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MIKEY MACK
ONE MAN BLUES HAM

next wednesday:
CELEB BARBACKS
YESHUA & DJ MAR MAR

Ruta Maya
Fresh Roasted Organic Coffee

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PRESENTS THURSDAY THRU SATURDAY

THURS 2/18 6-9 PM LBJ HS Festival de Los Artes
9 PM-Midnight FREE Open Jam
Flong All Star Band! NO COVER!

MON 2/19 **AFM FREE Concert Series**
Mondays 7 PM NO COVER
Jazz and Blues
Donna Menthol & Whiteshoes

WED 2/21 **CUBAN DANCE NIGHT**
FREE Salsa Lesson 7:30-8:30
Live Salsa Music 9-11 PM With CIENFUEGOS
FREE KIDS SHOW 10:30 AM SUNDAY FEB 18
CONNIE COYOTE AND HER KALEIDOSCOPE CIRCUS RODEO
Self Massage Class Thursdays 6 PM
TUESDAY Open Mike Music & Poetry - NO COVER

THURS 2/15 **TONIGHT!!!!**
10 Toast & Dimitris Ascent

FRI 2/16 **9^{pm} The Stillpoint Band**
w/ SPECIAL GUEST JERRY WISE

SAT 2/17 **WORLD CARNIVAL!!!!**
INSIDE OUT STEEL BAND
ACADEMICOS DA OPERA
BOMBASTA GHANDAIA

next week 2/22 The Salute to African American Writers presents Masquerade: Poems of Calypso
2/23 Women Hood & Friends: Two-High String Band
2/24 Kids Rock and Romp, Spanker CD Release Party
CHECK OUT AUSTINDAZE.COM

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Saxon Pub

1320 South Lamar 448-2552
www.thesaxonpub.com

Thurs. Feb. 15
Dan Dyer 8:30pm
of Breedlove
George Devore 11pm

Fri. Feb. 16
OMAR & THE HOWLERS 11pm
MIKE MILLIGAN 9:30pm
& **THE ALTAR BOYZ**
8pm Crystal Flavola
HHr. **The Regulars** 6pm No Cover

Sat. Feb. 17
Carolyn Wonderland 11pm
Freddy Steady 5 9:30pm
2 separate shows
LEE ANN ATHERTON 4pm
All Day Barn Dance

Sun. Feb. 18
The Resentments 7pm
w/ Stephen Bruton, Scrappy Jud Newcomb,
Bruce Hughes, Jon Dee Graham & John Chipman
WALTER TRAGERT 10pm
12am Jay Thomas

Mon. Feb. 19
Bill Carter & the Blame 8:30pm
w/ DENNY FREEMAN, CHRIS LAYTON,
CHARLIE SEXTON & ANDY SALMON
\$10
Will Sexton 11pm
12:30am **Nathan Singleton** 7pm
EVE MONSEES

Tues. Feb. 20
Bobby Whitlock & Coco Carmel 8pm
From Derek & The Dominos
12:15pm **Ricky Stein** 10:30am
Adam Carroll & Stayton Bonner
HHr. Forlini Cross & Holden 6pm

Wed. Feb. 21
HHr. **Pauline Reese** 6pm
MONTE MONTGOMERY 10pm
Paula Nelson 8pm
UNCLE LUCIUS 12am

COMING TO THE SAXON:
Fri. 2/23 - Asylum Street Spankers

Antone's

THIS WEEKEND!

THU 15 FEB
RUTHIE FOSTER
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ALBERT COLLINS' FRIEND
A GUITAR LEGEND
Coco Montoya
FRI 16 FEB
6PM DOOR

LATE SHOW • ON SALE NOW • ANTONES.NET
VALLEJO & PODUNK
FRI 16 FEB
10PM

SAT 17 FEB
Patrice Pike
with Rachel Loy
performers
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THIS SUNDAY
GUY FORSYTH
SUN 18 FEB
8PM

ANTONE'S AND KVET PRESENT
THE LISTENING ROOM
MON 19 FEB
ALL THIS WEEK
JASON ALLEN
KEVIN GILES
FROM TWO TONS OF STEEL
KYLE PARK & MORE

Blue Tuesday
TUE 20 FEB
SPECIAL GUESTS
CAROLYN WONDERLAND
DAVID HOLT
7:30 COORS

WED 21 FEB
SETH WALKER
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THU 22 FEB
ERIC TESSMER BAND
WITH THE BEST LOVE IN TOWN
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FRI 23 FEB & SAT 24 FEB
STORYVILLE
2 nights with
CD & DVD Release Party
WATERLOO IN STORE PERFORMANCE
THURS FEB 22ND - 6PM
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TUE 27 FEB
THE AMERICAN TWENTIES
PINETOP PERKINS
BLUE TUESDAY
STEVE JAMES
MARK FLENNY • CODY CASHDOLLAR
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THU 01 MAR
ME/TELEVISION • EMERGING ARTIST SERIES
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ALPHA REV CD RELEASE 10PM

SAT 03 MAR
MATT WERTZ
STEPHEN KELLOGG
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SUN 27 FEB
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SAT., SUN., & MON.

Tuesdays
THE TROUBADILLOS
Pool Tournament Night, No Cover

Wednesdays
Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones
"the Singing Bartender"
\$2 Domestic Longnecks

Thursday, Feb. 15, no cover
FRANK MASQUEDA SOLO ACOUSTIC
LADIES NIGHT - \$2 LONGNECKS

Friday, Feb. 16
JIMMY LEE JONES
BIRTHDAY BASH!
WITH SPECIAL GUEST "DON'T PET THE DOG!"

Saturday, Feb. 17
TRACY CONOVER

Sunday, Feb. 18, 2pm
SUNDAY GRAS
PONTY BONE AND
THE SQUEEZETONES
DON'T PET THE DOG &
THE GULFCOAST PLAYBOYS
AUTHENTIC CAJUN
COOKOUT!

Thursday, Feb. 22, no cover
JOSH GRIDER ACOUSTIC
LADIES NIGHT - \$2 LONGNECKS

Friday, Feb. 23
DEBBIE WALTON & RIP LORICK

Sunday, Feb. 24
CAROLYN WONDERLAND
& SHELLY KING

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Sun 18

ANTONE'S Guy Forsyth (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Bert Rivera (6:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Joe Gee (noon), Irish Tune Session (8:00)
BEERLAND Jigglewatts Burlesque Show
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ AJ Kline
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Brian
CEDAR STREET Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Ephraim Owens Quartet (12:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Rick Turcotte (4:00)
CLUB 973 Karaoke w/ the Bigg Sho (5:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Izzy Cox & Billy Pitman (10:00), In the Club: Heybale w/ Redd & Earl; Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)
DORIS MILLER AUDITORIUM Pam Hart, James Polk & His Jazz Ensemble, Hot Wax, Thomas Hughes, Leon Roberts, Mel Davis, Dr. Tom Husak's Jazz Ensemble (4:30)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mr. Fabulous Trio (7:00)
EGO'S Monte Peck's Acoustic Night (8:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Kris Kimura
ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
EMO'S Moth Gets Crushed, the Normans, Paperwork
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE American Graveyard, Lonesome Heroes, Chris Brecht
FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam w/ Walter Higgs (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Ted Hall's Blues Church/Jam
GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00 am)
HEADHUNTERS Death Got Killed, Shit Fux, Carbide, My Own Disaster, Blood of Patriots, Bass Line Bums, Rend
HOLE IN THE WALL Dim Lit Daylite, Superego All-Stars, Johnny Goudie, Rock & Roll Free-for-All (9:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA JAZZ Brunch w/ Kinktet (11:00 am)
JOVITA'S Patsy Thompson (6:00)
LAMBERTS Teye & Belen (noon)
MANUEL'S Julia LaShae (11:30 am)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Gospel Silvertones (10:00 am)

MOMO'S Phoebejeebies, Warren Hood & the Hoodlums, Porter Davis
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Tea Merchants (9:00)
NUEVO LEON Mariachi Relampago (1:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Li'l Steph, Open Mic Jam (8:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00 am)
THE OASIS The Brew
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Mrs. K
ONE WORLD THEATRE Eroica Trio (5:00)
OPAL DIVINE'S PENN FIELD Pop Stars: Dads Who Rock (10:00 am)
THE PARLOR George Showalter Benefit w/ Dana Flaconberry, the Bellfuries, Daniel Francis Doyle
PLUSH Car Stereo (Wars)
POODLE DOG LOUNGE The Flyin' A's (8:30)
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen & Kim Mackenzie
ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield
ROOM 710 Sweet Lee Morrow, 3 Kisses, Chalk Outlines
RUTA MAYA LBJ High School Festival de Los Artes, MCO All-Star Jam (6:00)

FALL OUT BOY TOUR

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 The Bumps
 9:00-11:00
 DJ Honeycomb
 11:30-2:00

Saturday
 HiFi Scenery
 9:00-11:00
 DJ Thibault
 11:30-2:00

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THU Vehicular 9:00-11:00
FRI DJ InVerse 11:00-2:00
SAT DJ Navy 11:00-2:00
SUN DJ Warrior 10:00-2:00
MON DJ Jeff Jugar 10:00-2:00
TUE Twist Up with DJ Navy 10:00-2:00
WED Retire 10:00-2:00

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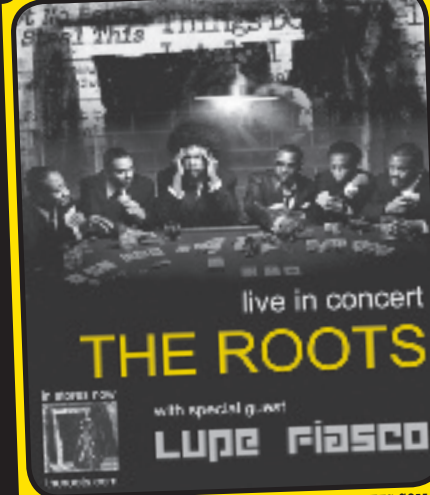
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SUN FEB 18



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TUE FEB 20



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SAT FEB 23



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IN THE CLUB

THU FEB 15
SIGMUND FRAUD
AND **UNCLE LUCIUS**

SAT FEB 17
RAQ AND EOTO
FEATURING
MICHAEL TRAVIS & JASON HANN
OF **THE STRING CHEESE INCIDENT**

SUN FEB 18
GOSPEL BRUNCH WITH
THE NEWSOUL INVADERS

SAT MAR 3



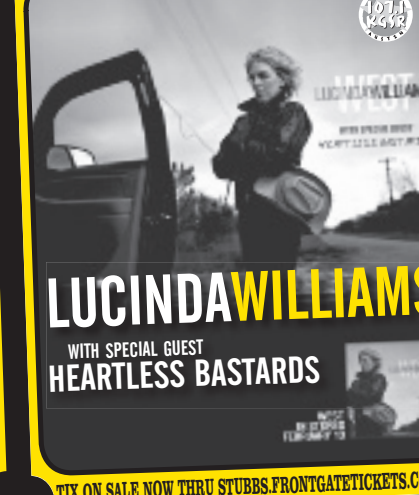
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THU MAR 8



TIX ON SALE NOW THRU STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRI MAR 9



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SUN FEB 18 — DOORS @ 10PM
COURSE OF RUIN
FREE WITH LAMB OF GOD TICKET

THU FEB 22
GREEN LEMON
AND **MOVING MATTER**

SAT FEB 24
HOT BUTTERED DRUM
WITH **GREEN MOUNTAIN GRASS**

WED FEB 28
STARCHILD
WITH **THIS LIFE ELECTRIC**
AND **GOLDCURE**
THU MAR 1
GREEN RIVER
ORDINANCE

SAT MAR 24



TIX ON SALE SAT 2/17 @ 10AM
THRU STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRI MAR 30



TIX ON SALE SAT 2/17 @ 10AM
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SAT APR 14



TIX ON SALE SAT 2/17 @ 10AM
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FRI MAY 4



TIX ON SALE SAT 2/17 @ 10AM
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Feb. 17th
10:30pm

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DANCE OF DAYS, DJ RICHARD GEAR

FRI 2/16 - REGGAE ———— DOORS 830, SHOW 9:00
MAU MAU CHAPLAINS
MR. BROWN
PLUS WINSTON'S COOKING

SAT 2/17 - ROCK ———— DOORS 830, SHOW 9:00
THE MERCERS
THE MIDGETMAN
THE LAST GASP, THE DIRTY HEARTS

TUES 2/20 EVERY TUESDAY
BASS THERAPY
W/ MCPULLISH & FRIENDS

WEDS 2/21 - REGGAE ———— 830 DOORS
101X HOMEGROWN CONCERT SERIES
TAMMANY HALL MACHINE
TIL' WE'RE BLUE OR DESTROY
BELLO RAGAZZO

02/22 - Euforquestra, Robkstone, Flying Club
02/23 - Maneja Beta, Rene, Ryan Scroggins and the
Trenchtown Tixons (ex-Las Skarrnales) 02/24 - Muchos
Backflips, Full Service, Spin Alley, Facing Tiasco 02/28
Sineé Fresh, Gymerel 03/01 Spoonfed Tribe 03/02 Grimy
Styles, Top Secret 03/07 - Higgs 03/08 - Brannen Temple's
Blaze, Bavo Bikes 03/09 - Jah Roots, Green Mountain Grass
03/10 - Skatallites, Robkstone 03/13 - Demitris Ascent

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club listings ◀ FROM SUNDAY

SAXON PUB The Resentments,
Walter Tragert, Jay Thomas
(7:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D

STUBB'S Gospel Brunch w/ the
New Soul Invaders (noon),
Outside: Gojira, Machine Head,
Trivium, Lamb of God; Inside
Later: Course of Ruin (5:30)

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/
Lee and Andy

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Gospel
Brunch w/ the Durden Family
Singers (11:00 am)

TONY'S VINEYARD In the Pocket
(noon)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat
Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

UNCLE FLIRTY'S Chris Pennington
(11:00)

THE WATER TANK Open Mic w/
Patrick

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE WEST
Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra

WHISKY BAR Freaks of the
Industry w/ DJ Lee Roi, DJ Kon
Karne

WOODY'S SOUTH Jordan Price &
Shad Blair (7:00)

CEDAR STREET Highly Likely,
Jukebox Heroes w/ Robert
Wagner (6:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
Mike & Rob Haedge (5:30), Big
John Mills (8:30)

CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO
Rich Demarco (6:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Paris '49
(6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone
Stars (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE
Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EGO'S Strumero, 3 Balls of Fire
(8:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Michael
Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh,
Julieann Banks (6:00)

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE DJ Ashen

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE
Kountoupis Brothers, Jeff Daily,
Emile Millar

FRIENDS Eric Tessmer Band

HEADHUNTERS Singer-Songwriter
Night

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE
Open-Mic Poetry & Reading w/
Martin Woldman (7:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL The Strand, I
Kill Cars (10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Robbie's
Open-Mic Night

MAGGIE MAE'S Butt Rockin' Blue
Monday w/ the Textcellorators
(8:00)

MOMO'S Alisa Geyer, Dustin Welch,
Jade Day, Jonathan Terrell

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Matt
Powell & Friends

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS
John Wilson & Joley Flowers

NASTY'S DJ Mel, Jahmighty

THE PARLOR Heather Bishop,
Mikey Mack

RADISSON Larissa Ness (5:30)

RED FEZ DJ Jeff Jupiter (10:00)

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB
Marc Devine (6:00)

ROMEO'S Lisa Clark

ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound
System

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Chip
Sneed

RUTA MAYA AFM w/ Donna
Menthol, Whiteshoes (7:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Rene (9:00)

SAXON PUB Nathan Singleton, Bill
Carter & the Blame, Will Sexton,
Eve Monsees (7:00)

SCOOT INN Navasota, JT Van Zandt
(9:00)

TAMBALEO Open Mic w/ Calvin
Russell (8:00)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ
Elizabeth McQueen & Jason
Roberts (8:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Joel Hofmann, the
Christophers, In & Outlaws

TROPHY'S The Meshbanes

WOODY'S SOUTH Billy Dee

Tue 20

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Billy
Harvey (3:30)

ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek
O'Brien, Malford Milligan (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time
Fiddlers Jam (7:30)

B.B. ROVERS Buster Gutbucket &
Friends, Paula Held (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open
Mic (7:30)

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The
Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

BROKEN SPOKE Alvin Crow's
Hardcore Country Band

BROWN BAR DJ Gray (9:00)

CACTUS CAFE Graham Weber &
Chris Brecht (8:00)

CAFE MUNDI King Tears, the
Archibalds (6:00)

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke w/
Brian

CEDAR STREET Seela Green (6:00),
Foundation (9:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
Vela & Jordan Minor (5:30)

Mon 19

ANTONE'S Jason Allen w/ Kevin
Giles, Kyle Park (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth
Campbell & the Banned (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Walter
Higgs & the Shuffle Pigs

BEERLAND Rock & Roll Karaoke
w/ Nathan Black

BLIND PIG PUB Chris Pennington
(10:30)

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ AJ Kline

CACTUS CAFE Open Stage w/ Abi
Tapia, Graham Weber (7:00)

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke w/
Brian



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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15
TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS
blues legend

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17
CORNELL HURD
country big band

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18
FLOYD DOMINO
stride boogie woogie

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18
EPHRAIM OWENS
jazz

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 21
TEA MERCHANTS
irish

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 23
DALE WATSON
country

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 22
PORTER DAVIS
low down blues


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March 10 - **REDD VOLKAERT**
March 12 - **JOHNNIE GOUDIE**
March 13 - **TRISH MURPHY**

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8PM **CARTER FRANCIS** FRI., FEB. 16

8PM **ISAAC STRYCKER** SAT., FEB. 17

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PUSHMONKEY 11:30PM

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MONDAY FEBRUARY 19
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JULIEANN BANKS 8PM

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FRIDAY, FEB. 16 **ROTEL & THE HOT TOMATOES** 9:30PM

SATURDAY, FEB. 17 **FONDUE MONKS** 9:30PM

TUESDAY, FEB. 20 **TEXAS TUESDAY WALT WILKINS** 9:30PM

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21 **LATIN WEDNESDAY THE BREW** 9:30PM
SALSA LESSONS 9PM

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THE HUDSONS 8
THE WILL EVANS PROJECT 10:15
GOLDCURE 11:45
TWILIGHT BROADCAST 1
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16 / \$10

SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND
HONEYDEW REVUE 9:30
THE WOODS 8
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17

GRAHAM WILKINSON
& THE UNDERGROUND TOWNSHIP 9:15
DAVE MADDEN 10:30
MURDER MY SWEET 12
PARKERS BREAK 8
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18

NO SHOW PONTES 9:30
phoebejeebies 8

MONDAY FEBRUARY 19
JONATHAN TERRELL 10:30
JADE DAY 9:30
DUSTIN WELCH 8 **ALISA GEYER** 7
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 20 / \$5

KACY CROWLEY 8
SUZANNA CHOFFEL 9:15
ELIZABETH DONIHOO 10:30
PATTY DAVID 11:45
JO CAROL PIERCE 6
HAPPY HOUR/NO COVER TIL 7PM
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 21 / \$5

THE Heathens 9:30
MATT POWELL BAND 8
JACKSON PARTEN & STATE EXPRESS 12:15
UPCOMING SHOWS

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FRI, FEB 16 DALE WATSON
SAT, FEB 17 ALVIN CROW
TUE, FEB 20 HARDCORE COUNTRY
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WED, FEB 21 TRACI LYNN

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 Join the Crewe of Aphrodite as our ladies show their charms. Prizes and discounts for top 5 ladies collecting most beads.
March Madness
 Saturday, March 3rd is the Sheer and Clear Party and an SDC Meet & Greet
 Saturday, March 17th is St. Patrick's Day and a CouplesTouch Meet & Greet
www.aphroditesforum.com

club listings ◀ ◀ FROM TUESDAY

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Ephraim Owens Experience (10:00), In the Club: Toni Price (7:00), Barfield, the Tyrant of Texas Funk (11:00)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE X-Perimental Night
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Open Mic w/ Bonnie & Blythe (9:00)
DARWIN'S PUB Leatherhand (10:00)
THE DIRTY DOG Jazz Jam (10:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S Sunny Sweeney (8:00)
EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE "Writers Who Rock" Songwriters Night w/ Melissa Mullins (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Kat's Meow (9:30)
ELYSIUM Sappho's Isle w/ DJ Amerykah
EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh, Julieann Banks, Charles Thibodeaux, Ponty Bone (6:00)
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Deep Sessions w/ DJ Todd B
FLAMINGO CANTINA Bass Therapy w/ McPullish (9:30)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)
FRIENDS Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roots Day w/ the Horton Brothers
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Open Stage w/ Cade Baccus
HABANA CALLE 6 Trey Lanshe (8:00)
HANOVER'S Pete Benz & Kevin Havron (7:30)
HEADHUNTERS Rock & Roll Showcase
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Open-Mic Night w/ Sergio Martinez (8:00)
HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Leo Stokes
HOLE IN THE WALL Tucker Livingston, Passed-Out Fliers, Ghosts of California, the Dialtones, the Meshbanes (6:30)
IT'S ITALIAN Frankly Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
JO'S HOT COFFEE Black Water Gospel, Amy Cook & Amazing Blue Horse (8:30)
JOVITA'S Mo Pair, Ray Cashman (6:30)
LA PALAPA Brewer Nation
LAMBERTS David Holt & Bill Carter (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Boombox (10:00)
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Bag 100 (9:45)
MOMO'S Jo Carol Pierce, Kacy Crowley, Suzanna Choffel, Elizabeth Donihoo, Patty David
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Billy D
PARAMOUNT THEATRE Kodo Drummers
PARDNERS Open Mic w/ the Michael Petty Band (7:30)

THE PARLOR Monster Sleeps Quiet, Men of Colour
PLUSH Mentalnote
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Justin
RADISSON Murphy's Inlaws
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Denia Ridley w/ Marc Devine Trio (6:30)
RILEY'S TAVERN Beverly Hensley
ROOM 710 The Breathing Holes, Cochino, Mumpsie, the Big Fix
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Tony Maserati
RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon & the Heatherns (9:00)
SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM Jim Ivy's Jinxstreet Band (7:00)
SAXON PUB Forlini, Cross, & Holden; Bobby Whitlock & Coco Carmel; Ricky Stein; Adam Carroll & Stayton Bonner
SCOOT INN Aimee Bobruk & Hilary York (7:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Redd Volkaert
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke (9:00)
SIX LOUNGE Chris Pennington (10:30)
STUBB'S Lupe Fiasco, the Roots
TAVERN IN THE GRUENE Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jerry Martin & Sam Sanchez (8:00)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Texamericana Social Hour (8:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Bruce Curtis, River Rat Brass Band (6:00)
TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ RJ
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will Dunlap (6:00)
WOODY'S SOUTH Jelly Jar, Nathan Harlan (7:00)

Wed 21

219 WEST Breezy (7:00)
311 CLUB Syndrome (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Jabarvy (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH Barry Sell (1:00)
APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL Marty Linville
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland (7:30)
AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)
BABY ACAPULCO'S NO. 5 Singer-Songwriter Open Mic w/ Jimi Lee
BEERLAND Irish Brothers, the Government, Black Panda, Lick Lick
BROKEN SPOKE Traci Lynn
BROWN BAR DJ Manny

BUDDY'S PLACE Shelli Coe (7:00)
CACTUS CAFE Greezy Wheels CD Release (8:00)
CAFE MUNDI Matt the Electrician, Spouthpaw Jones (8:00)
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke w/ Nicole
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Owen Plant
CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave, Spazmatiks (6:00)
CHAIN DRIVE Triplewide, Baby Robots, Darling New Neighbors (10:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Missoula Slim (5:30), Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Jacinta (7:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Trube Farrell & Sniz (10:00); In the Club: The Explosions (6:30), Amy Cook (10:00), James McMurtry (12mid)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Kill the DJ, Smash-Ups, Robot, DJ Alib, Ghettoitech w/ DJ Orion (9:30)
CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee
DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station Masters
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (7:00)
EGO'S Austin Poetry Slam, Half Dozen or the Other (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Monster Big Band (9:30)
ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Gothfather
EMO'S Lounge: The Cocker Spaniels, Cry Blood Apache, Subtle; Inside: Me Infecto, My Education, Red Sparrows
EVANGELINE CAFE Cowboy Johnson (6:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Bello Ragazzo, "Til We're Blue or Destroy, Tammany Hall Machine (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Tucker Livingston, David Hamburger (8:00)
FRIENDS Pride & Joy
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Jack & the Gang
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Ian of Echosystemz (8:00)
HANOVER'S Hi-Fi Scenery (7:30)
HEADHUNTERS Chief Fuzzer, DJ Audionaut, Love Gone Cold, Lonesome Heroes
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Simone Wensink & the Last Straw (6:30)
HOLE IN THE WALL Wash Hamilton, Dickie Lee Erwin, Roger Wallace, the Distant Seconds, Sally Crewe & the Sudden Moves, the Black (6:00)

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

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SATURDAY 9:30



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THU 15	3 PEACE & a biscuit	calico KINGS
FRI 16	SHAWN & PHIL	LES & THE FUNK MOB
SAT 17		T.U.B. texas unlimited band
SUN 18		LES & THE FUNK MOB
MON 19	HIGHLY LIKELY	JUKEBOX HEROES feat. robert wagner
TUE 20	SEELA & FREINDS	FOUNDATION
WED 21	TRENT & DAVE	SPAZMATICS



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www.theparishroom.com
tix @ theparishroom.frontgatetickets.com
THUR 2.15 DOORS 9PM

RANDALL BRAMLETT
CATFISH WHISKEY

SAT 2.17 DOORS 8PM

LOW LINE CALLER
ASTER

THE HAPPY BULLETS

WED 2.21 DOORS 9:30PM

SMASH HIP-HOP SHOWCASE

feat.

CHINGO BLING

DJ RAPID RIC

THUR 2.22 DOORS 9PM

ALEX DUPREE

AND THE TRAPDOOR BAND

ZOOKEEPER

THE COME LATELYS

FRI 2.23 DOORS 9PM

MIDLAKE

TACKS, THE BOY DISASTER

ST. VINCENT

SAT 2.24 DOORS 9PM

DREMNT THE END

DAWN OVER ZERO

MORNINGSIDE DRIVE

SOUNDS UNDER RADIO

SLIDER

TUES 2.27 DOORS 9PM

SCION LIVE METRO TOUR

BIG DADDY KANE

performing live w/

CONNIE PRICE

& THE KEYSTONES

FRI 3.2 DOORS 9PM

FUTURE CLOUDS AND RADAR

CD RELEASE

SHANE BARTELL

CRAWLING WITH KINGS

3.3 danny and the nightmares

3.7 bayu blakes, dj rapid ric & d-madness

3.8 four tet w/ steve reid

3.9 the everyday people cd release

3.10 firekills cd release

3.12 20x2 at SXSW interactive

3.14 suited productions SXSW day party

3.15 anodyne records SXSW day party

3.16 luck media SXSW day party

3.14 - 3.17 official SXSW venue



Live
Music
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Late
Night
Loungin'

Lucky
lounge

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THU., FEB. 15, 6PM

10PM

FRI., FEB. 16, 9PM

SAT., FEB. 17, 9PM

MON., FEB. 19, 10PM

TUE., FEB. 20, 10PM

11PM

WED., FEB. 21, 10PM

THU., FEB. 22, 6PM

10PM

THU., FEB. 22, 6PM

10PM

THU., FEB. 22, 6PM

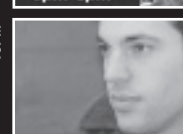
10PM

THU., FEB. 22, 6PM

10PM

THU., FEB. 22, 6PM

10PM



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IAN MCLAGAN
& THE BUMP BAND

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THE SCREENBURN TRACK OF PANEL PROGRAMMING

at SXSW Interactive includes 20 panels focused on the newest developments in the world of video games.

This programming is highlighted by a keynote speech by **Will Wright** on **Tuesday, March 13**. Wright is the creator of The Sims as well as the mastermind behind the highly-anticipated new game SPORE.

Admission to ScreenBurn Panels and the Arcade is included with your SXSW Interactive, Gold or Platinum registration. For more info, see www.screenburnfest.com or email Lindsay@sxsw.com.



club listings ◀ FROM WEDNESDAY

HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian
JOVITA'S Harry Bodine, Little Mikey & the Soda Jerks (6:00)
LA PALAPA Big Frank Gomez & Friends (7:00)
LAMBERTS Erik Hokkanen & His Gypsy Tribe (6:30), Chicken Strut (10:30)
LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem
MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming (10:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Taco Wednesday w/ the Mother Truckers
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Brewer Nation (7:30)
MOMO'S Matt Powell, Band of Heathens, Sidehill Gougers
MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)
PARDNERS Kara
THE PARISH Chingo Bling, Rapid Ric & the Whut It Dew Family
THE PARLOR Honeythief, Moses & the Burning Bush
PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)
PLUSH Original Block Party w/ DJ Tats (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones
THE PUB Jam Session w/ Frank
RADISSON The Newz
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RED FEZ The Reflex w/ DJ Honeycomb, DJ Fuckin' A (10:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Trio (7:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Zack Huckabee & the Texas Honky-Tonk Road Show
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D
ROOM 710 Invincible Czars, Mama Speedheart, Mose About, Druggist
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Glenn Collins Open Mic
RUTA MAYA Cienfuegos (9:00)
SAKÉ ON SIXTH Get Broke Wednesdays w/ Merrick Brown
SAM'S TOWN POINT Ramsay Midwood & Friends (8:30)
SAXON PUB Pauline Reese (6:00), Paula Nelson, Uncle Lucius, Monte Montgomery (8:00)
SCOOT INN Alexander's Dark Band, the Stags (10:00)
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Austin Howl
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke, Open Mic (9:00)
SOUTH FORTY Karaoke w/ J.R. the DJ (9:00)
SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (9:15)
TAMBALEO DJ Mike Swing, Tee Double
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Baby Gramps (8:00)
TRIPLE CROWN RC Banks, Aliens, Sparkle Motion, Damage Pants

TROPHY'S The Come Latelays, Driftn' Luke, the Championship
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan (7:00)
WOODY'S SOUTH Cody Richardson, Shotgun Party (7:00)
Y BAR & GRILL Singer-Songwriter Night (6:30)
Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (6:00)

Thu 22

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Hosea Hargrove (3:30)
ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR Haydn Vitera (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH Son Dos (12:30)
ANTONE'S Best Love in Town, Eric Tessmer (8:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Dave Cooper
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Rust Tones
BEERLAND Johnny Dango, Brother Will, Tenlons Fort
BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal (7:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes
BROWN BAR mr.ripley
BUDDY'S PLACE Justin Trevino
CAFE MUNDI Lee Simmons, Seahorse
CANTINA LAREDO Cienfuegos (5:45)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Howlin' Houndog
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Porter Davis (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Rick Turcotte (5:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Paris '49 (10:00); In the Club: Mother Truckers (6:30), Deguello, Shandon Sahm, Broken Teeth (10:00)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
COTTON CLUB Texas All-Stars (8:30)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S Bill Jerram, 2 Hoots & a Holler (8:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Liz Morphis, Paul Klemperer CD Release
EMO'S Inside: Lonesome Heroes, Mic Harrison, Li'l Cap'n Travis; Lounge: Big Black Smoke
END OF AN EAR Coke\Smith\Friedrich Trio (7:00)
EVANGELINE CAFE Craig Tountage (7:00)

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

FLAMINGO CANTINA Euforquestra (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Plumtucker & Friends, Mockingbirds
FREDA'S SEAFOOD GRILLE Joe Gee (6:30)
FRIENDS Pride & Joy
GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man
HEADHUNTERS The Winchesters, Dual Exhaust, Hadley, Turbo 350, the Steed
HILL'S CAFE David Lee Kaiser
HOLE IN THE WALL Sista Otis, Colin Gilmore Band, Bourbon Legends, Kevin McKinney, Tom Van den Avond (6:00)
HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian
JAZZ Matt Wilson (10:30)
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA PALAPA Latin at Heart
LAMBERTS Christine Albert (6:30)
THE LOADING DOCK Breezy
MAMA MIA'S RISTORANTE ITALIANO DJ Orion (8:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Michael Clay (7:00)
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Track 5 (9:45)
MOMO'S Ginger Leigh, Will Evans, Goldcure, Bernie Calcote
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
THE OFF CENTER Throws Like a Girl w/ Bitch (8:00)
THE PARLOR Yellow Fever, Wallmart
THE PEACOCK Oliver Rajamani, the Places (9:00)
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
RADISSON Winton Reynolds Jazz Trio
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Vehicular, Nuthin' New All-Stars (9:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Quartet (7:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Billy Bacon & the Forbidden Pigs
RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT Cienfuegos (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta
ROOM 710 Supercrash, Zenith Fuzzbomb, Dual Exhaust, Teabag
RUTA MAYA Cyril Neville's Tribe 13 (10:00)
SAXON PUB Fabulous Chevelles, Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore
SCOOT INN MarkD & the Threat to the Nation (10:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy Dee
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS John Montez Band (9:00)
STUBB'S Moving Matter, Green Lemon
TRIPLE CROWN Mark Jungers, Foodstamps, Tingles, Murdock's
UNCLE FLIRTY'S DJ Ashen
WATERLOO RECORDS Storyville (5:00)
WHISKY BAR The Always Already
WOODY'S SOUTH Natalie Zoe & Phil Brown (7:00)
Z'TEJAS Kris Kimura Trio (6:00)

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THU 2/15 > CHADD THOMAS & THE CRAZY KINGS, EARTHTONE PLAYERS, THE SKELETONS, THE HUMILIATORS (P), THREE POT OFF, RUBY'S JAZZ GARAGE (HM)

FRI 2/16 > SUPERHEAVYGOATASS, SPUTHOOF (P), MEGANAUT, TEXAS HATE MACHINE (P), IRONCLAD, COCKFIGHT

SAT 2/17 > MORE RRE, THE LAST OF THE INTERCEPTORS (P), DIE COBRA, THE DROPOUTS (P), -ESE-, STREET LIGHT SUSIE (P), THE BRICKS ATX

SUN 2/18 > REND, BASS LINE BUMS (P), BLOOD OF PATRIOTS, MY OWN DISASTER (P), CARBIDE, SHIT FUX (P), DEATH GOT KILLED

MON 2/19 > SINGER SONGWRITER NIGHT! TUE 2/20 > ROCK & ROLL SHOWCASE

WED 2/21 > LONESOME HEROS, LOVE GONE COLD, DJ-AUDIONAUT/PATIO, CHIEF RUZZER

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su 18 closed

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3-9 GRADY, CHILI COLD BLOOD, RUSTY BIRD
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3-9 RELATAGEMENT W/ LUD REVELS, SUIVIAL TRAVEL
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for New
Locations



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at Oltorf
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At Marker 248
990-2144

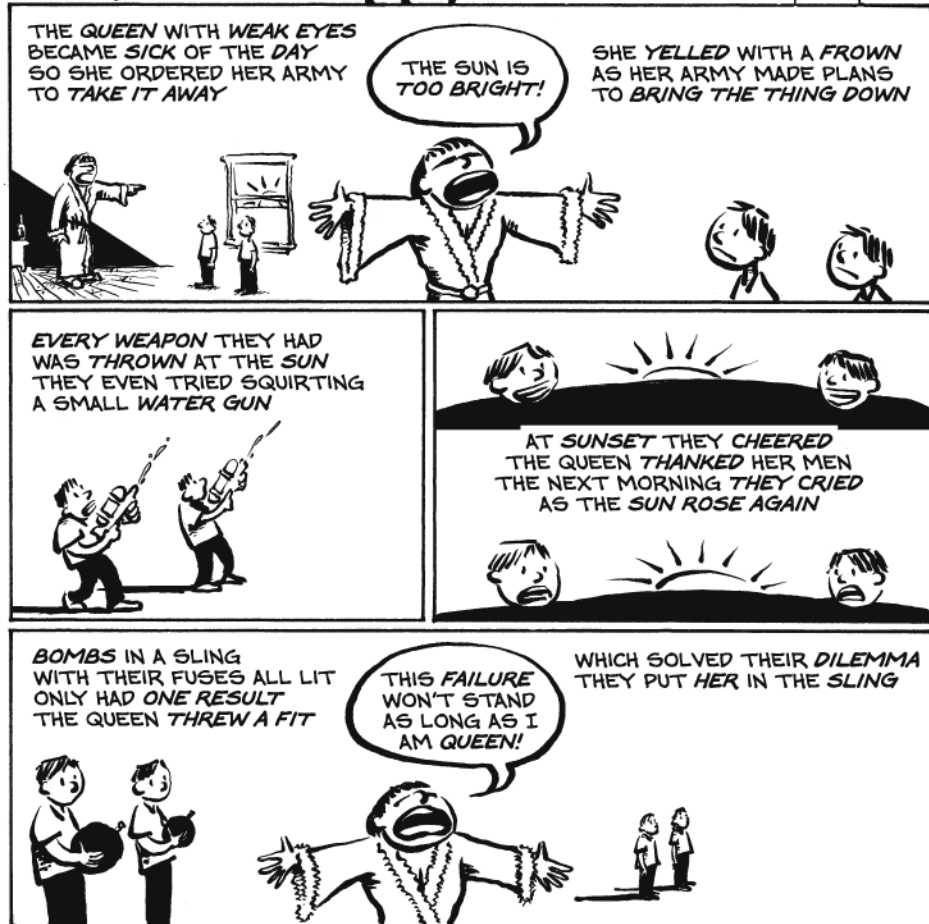


FAR SOUTH
6524 S. Congress
N of Wm. Cannon
445-6116



COMICS

How to Be Happy "the queen" drawn by Shannon Wheeler written by Matt Speer



©2007 SHANNON WHEELER WWW.TMCM.COM

TROUBLETOWN BY LLOYD DANGLE



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COMMUNICATIONS

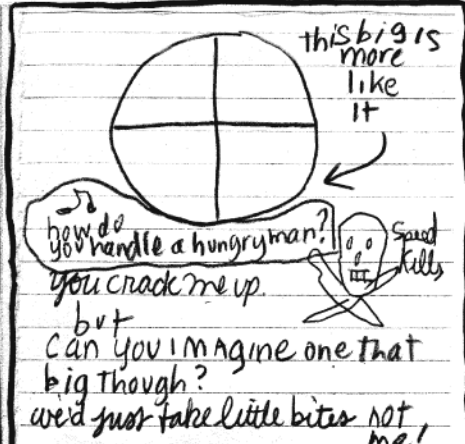
We live in an age of speed. Can you think of ways in which speed has made life better?

I'm on speed right now
you wish!
I do wish.
I seriously also. ⊕⊕ ha ha

2 pages! She's insane
write 2 pages on speed how
made life better right

By tomorrow. The answer is
transportation and communication

It's always transportation
and communication for
that's all she cares about
because she's ugly
as a dog! actually worse.



Cold but true. She should take
speed lose weight make
life better then
write 2 pages



BITTER YETI IN THE CITY

JASON STOUT © 2006



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS

Anton's syndrome is a form of cortical blindness in which the patient denies he or she is visually impaired.

In 1957, Brazilian farmer Antonio Villas Boas reported that he was abducted by barking aliens who covered him in gel and mated with him.

According to one estimate by Russell Seitz, all the electrons on the Internet combined weigh about 2 ounces.

Twenty-five percent of Americans polled by AOL and the Associated Press say they believe that Jesus Christ will return in 2007.

It is estimated that 100 billion people have died since the human race began.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpants@austinchronicle.com.



TRADE UP

454-5767

austinchronicle.com/tradeup

CLASSIFIEDS

100 JOBS

110 Art/Design
115 Beauty/Salon/Spa
120 Entertainment/
 Casting
125 General
130 Healthcare
135 Hospitality
140 Legal
145 Office/Clerical
150 Non-Profit
155 Professional
160 Research Study
165 Retail
170 Sales/Marketing
175 School/Training
180 Technical

200 HOUSING

210 Reader Notice
215 Apartment/
 Condo/Townhome
220 Duplex/Houses
225 Vacation
230 Commercial
235 Roommates
240 Real Estate For Sale

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310 Antiques/
 Collectibles
315 Appliances
320 Baby/Kids Stuff
325 Clothing
330 Computers
335 Electronics
340 Free Stuff
345 Furniture
350 Garage/
 Estate Sales
355 General
360 Jewelry/
 Accessories
365 Pets/Pet Supplies
370 Recreational
375 Tickets/
 Entertainment
380 Tools
385 Trades
390 Wanted to Buy

400 SERVICES

410 Business
415 Computers
420 Counseling
425 Health/Wellness
430 Home
435 Financial
440 Fitness/Training
445 Legal
450 Licensed Massage
455 Psychic/Astrology
460 Travel
465 Miscellaneous

500 NEIGHBORHOOD

510 Activities
515 Classes/Workshops
520 Discussion Groups
525 Events
530 General
535 Lost & Found
540 Volunteers
545 Legal Notices

600 MOTOR

610 Cars
615 Trucks
620 SUV's
625 Motorcycles
630 Recreational
635 Parts
640 Repairs

700 MUSIC

710 Equipment for Sale
715 Music Instruction
720 Musicians Available
725 Musicians Wanted
730 Recording Studios
735 Rentals/Services
740 Shameless
 Promotion

PERSONALS

Lovers Lane
 Easy Street
 Shot in the Dark
 Messages

Please check your ad for accuracy the first time it runs. *The Austin Chronicle* is not responsible for copy errors after the first week of publication. *The Austin Chronicle's* liability for errors is limited to the cost of the space occupied by the error, with a maximum liability of republication. Corrections must be submitted by Tuesday, 1pm.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6pm

Deadlines: Tuesday, 1pm

Phone: 512-454-5767

Email: classifieds@austinchronicle.com



NAIL TECH

110

ART/DESIGN

ART

AUSTIN ROCKS

\$300-\$800/wk. TO START
 Expanding Art Co. seeks 10 enthusiastic people who like to work w/ other fun guys & gals. Must like \$, music & travel. No exp. nec. Mgmt. training avail. For immediate interview.
Call 512-926-7300 ext. 3

115

BEAUTY SALON/SPA

HAIR STYLIST needed, up to 50% commission. Ongoing training provided. Organic Hair & Beauty Center, an upscale salon in Round Rock. Call Nicky 255-6763

HAIR STYLISTS Massage Therapists, Estheticians, and Nail Techs needed. Hair stations and treatment rooms are now available for an INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL of \$600/mo. at Aloha Galleries in Round Rock. Call 512-255-6775 or 512-406-1989.

HAIRSTYLIST CHAIR RENTAL. Available at well established salon. Excellent location. Central Austin. 451-6267 or 451-1629.

HAIRSTYLIST CENTRAL AUSTIN HAIR STUDIO. Build Your Business Now. Parking. Ph 576-4683.S0-LA District.

HAIRSTYLISTS / NAIL TECHS Lease \$130/wk. Downtown location. Lots of walk-ins. 320-5907.

MASSAGE THERAPIST NEEDED IMMEDIATELY! \$28,000-\$35,000 Base Salary or Commission based. Downtown, North, West South Locations available.
 •401(k) retirement plans start in 2007
 •Health Care Benefits
 •We prefer on-line applications
 Phone: 512-391-1569
 Fax: 512-391-0760
 myBodyMechanic.com

MASSAGE THERAPISTS Needed in a therapeutic massage clinic. Now hiring licensed massage therapists at several locations. Immediate client base, plus FT / PT. Contact Don at 512-971-6873 or dwright@massageheights.com

RECEPTIONIST needed part-time in Northwest Austin (183/McNeil area). Must be responsible, able to multi-task and, most importantly, have a cheerful attitude. Shifts from 9-3. Call 257-8593

NAIL TECH

AT RUSS & CO.

One Opening for excellent Nail Tech. Ample parking, great atmosphere, UT/Downtown area. Receptionist provided, \$395mo.

472-6961
554-5035

STYLIST Only You Salon has station for rent for STYLIST w/ clients. \$110/wk. Central location w/parking 477-9166.

120

ENTERTAINMENT CASTING

DANCERS Actors and Models needed for upcoming club promotions. Male/Female, all types. Call (512) 797-4173.

PUPPETEERS In need of 4 puppeteers for year long tour starting March, 2007. Auditions will be in Austin Feb 17th 2007. I need people to fill in certain spots along the way as well as performers who can do 4 weeks in Europe. Ideal candidates must have rod and Bunraku experience. But will train the right person. Must be able to travel at least two weeks at a time and have a valid passport. If you'd like to set an appointment email me at admin@geppettodreams.com make sure to put puppeteer in the subject line and attach headshot and resume.

125 GENERAL

CONSTRUCTION Superintendent, Project Managers & Surveyors. National General Contracting firm seeking career minded individuals to work large and complex civil construction projects from start to finished. Travel Required. Expenses paid. Competitive benefit package. Please send resumes to liz.kennedy@rbic.com.

COURIERS Commission wages. Dependable vehicle & cell phone needed. Mon-Fri 8am-5pm. Call 459-7472

DANCE INSTRUCTORS HIP HOP AND DANCE INSTRUCTORS NEEDED

We are looking for you to teach kids in the Austin area Tuesday and Thursday afternoons 3:30pm-5:30pm. Responsible applicants only. Must have dependable transportation. Please call for more info
(210)310-0216

DELIVERY DRIVER

PAID CASH DAILY Hiring Immediately!

•Flexible Schedules•
 •Lunch Shifts (M-F 10a-2p)
 •Weekends (F/S/Sun 4-11p)

Restaurant Delivery Service
 Use your own vehicle

CALL 346-9990

Email: eatoutin@yahoo.com

WEBSITE Looking for something more?
 Check out austinchronicle.com/classifieds for even more great ads online.

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 Earn up to \$37,000
 Your First Year
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 Apply online at
www.otrdrivers.com

DRIVERS

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Compensation in industry! More Hometime! Sign-on Bonus! Safety/MPG Bonus! Van, Flatbed, Heavy Haul. Need 1 yr OTR exp. Class A CDL req. Call Today-Start Tomorrow! 800-835-9471.

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LIFEGUARDS

Looking for a GREAT SUMMER JOB?

The city of Austin Aquatic Division wants you!

Positions....

Lifeguards • Office Staff
 • Swim Coaches
 • Pool Managers
 • Swimming Instructors
 • Swim Coach Supervisor

Benefits...

Starting pay \$6.50/hr, Open Water lifeguards for Barton Springs \$8.50/hr & flexible hours.

Apply...

must be 15 yrs or older
 400 Deep Eddy Avenue
974-9331

Scoring Student Assessments

Pearson Educational Measurement is looking for college graduates to read and score student essays on a temporary basis at our north Austin Performance Scoring Center. Paid training will begin in late February and early March for these four to eight-week scoring sessions. In mid-March, we will also need bilingual readers who are fluent in Spanish (day shift). Successful employees may be asked to work related projects May-June.

Day Shift: 8am - 4:45pm, M-F

Evening shift: 5:30pm.- 10pm, M-F

Starting Pay: \$11.25/hour

10% shift differential for evening shift

Bachelor's degree required, but it may be in any field

To schedule an interview, logon to www.careermapping.com/pemjobs or call our interactive voice system toll free at **1-877-PEM-JOBS.**



**400 Center Ridge Drive
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For more information about Pearson Educational Measurement visit www.pearsonedmeasurement.com. Pearson Educational Measurement is committed to employing a diverse work force. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Put Your College Degree to Work

CONTINUED **125**
GENERAL

MARTIAL ARTS INSTRUCTORS needed. PT/FT No teaching exp. necessary. Will Train. 459-1053 x160

PART TIME
Extend-A-Care for Kids

Children are our future.

Be a positive role model working with elementary age kids in the afternoons. Work hours 2:15-6:15 p.m. M-F. Starting pay \$9.00-\$9.60/hr. EOE. Sites at 64 elementary schools. Apply at Extend-A-Care for Kids, 55 North IH 35, www.eackids.org, or call 472-9929 x408.

REMODELER HELPER Paid based on experience. Tools and transportation a must. Call 512-627-9017

TRAVEL COOL TRAVEL JOB!! One Month Paid Training! \$500 Sign On Bonus Must be free to travel & Start Today 1-888-297-4445

135
HOSPITALITY

ALL POSITIONS BABY GREENS is hiring SALAD/WRAP ASSEMBLERS, CASHIER & SHIFT SUPERVISOR. Prior restaurant exp. preferred. Must have a good work ethic, positive attitude, reliable transportation. Email: babygreensfeedback@earthlink.net, fax: 462-6096 or apply in person (M-F 3pm to 6pm) at 2316 S 1st Street.

ALL

NOW HIRING
•Servers
•Bartenders
Make up to \$300 per shift.
•Hostess
Apply in Person After 9am
9070 Research Blvd. 101
183 and Burnet Rd
467-8600
www.bagpipespub.com

ALL
H-E-B
NOW HIRING
FOR NEW STORE IN KYLE!

COMING TO KYLE IN 2007!

JOB FAIRS
Monday February 12th through Friday February 16th 10am-6pm St. Anthony Marie Claret Catholic Church 801 N. Burleson St. Kyle, TX

Interviewing for all departments including: Meat Market, Seafood, Bakery, Tortillaria, General Merchandise, Card & Party, Baby, Photo, Cosmetics, Entertainment, Texas Backyard, Loss Prevention, Pharmacy, Deli, Food Service, Coffee Shop, Cheese Shop, Grocery, Cashiers, Carryouts, Showtime Demo, Produce, Floral, Gas Station, Floor Maintenance, Healthy Living & Wine

Candidates must be able to work opening and closing shifts including weekends and holidays. We currently have positions available at several area H-E-B Stores throughout the Austin area.


EOE

ALL
The Belmont
Is accepting applications for the following positions:

•Line Cook
•Bussers
•Host
•Cocktail
•Doormen

Please apply in person at The Belmont, 305 W. 6th Street, between two and 4pm daily.


The Belmont is an Equal Opportunity Employer

ALL


•Front Office Manager
•Marketing Manager
•Reservations Specialist
•Front Desk Representative
•PBX Operator
•Buffet Coordinator
•Housekeeper

NW Austin- Now Interviewing!
jobs@thecrossingsaustin.com
Call 512-225-1075 ext 4149
thecrossingsaustin.com

ALL POSITIONS
Current Employment opportunities:
• Banquet Captain
• Barback
• Employee Cafeteria Attds
• Phone Operator
• Waitstaff
• Dishwashers
• Front Desk Supervisor
• Aerobics/Spin Instructors
• Kids Club Attds.
• Night Cleaners
• Stewards(PM)
• Reservations Group Coordinator
• Conference Attds
• Housekeepers (AM/PM)
• Front Desk Agent
• Income Auditor
• Greenskeepers
• Golf Attendants
• Sales Admin Asst
• Massage Therapist
• Spa Reservationsist
• Cooks
• Bartenders
• Night Auditor
Apply in person Monday-Friday 8:30-5PM, 8212 Barton Club Drive, Austin, Texas 78735. Email resumes to jobs@bartoncreek.com or fax your information to 512-329-4014. Website: http://www.bartoncreek.com
Barton Creek offers a complete benefits package & competitive wages. EOE

ALL

Now Hiring:
• EXPLINE COOK
• SERVERS
• PM BUSER

Upscale, fast paced. Voted Austin's Favorite Restaurant by Austin Chronicle Reader's Poll.
Please Apply Mon.-Fri between 2pm-5pm.
8127 Mesa Dr/ 346-7900

ALL
NOW HIRING!

Jimmy John's Sandwiches is looking for **CREW** and **DRIVERS**. A fun and exciting workplace!

Apply in person at:
601 W. MLK or
3203 Red River.
Call 512-590-5851 for info

ALL
JOB FAIR
Saturday & Sunday
Feb 17 & 18, 9am-5:30pm
4715 US Hwy 290 W
(Next to Toney Burger Cntr)
New 400 seat, fun Italian restaurant in South Austin!
• Cooks • Hosts • Cocktail
• Prep • Waiters • Dish/Bus
(512) 415-5091


ALL POSITIONS

Uncle Billy's Smoke House and Brewery is the newest addition to Barton Spring's restaurant row. Uncle Billy's is now accepting applications for all positions. Please apply in person at 1530 Barton Springs (next to Austin Java) Monday-Friday 1pm-5pm.

ALL
COUNTY LINE ON THE HILL
6500 Bee Caves Rd.
327-1742
Dee Dee Halsey, Gen. Mgr.

AND
COUNTY LINE ON THE LAKE
5204 FM 2222
346-3664
Mark Gleinser, Gen. Mgr.

Both locations seeking lunch and dinner personnel. Apply in person -- but call for appointment. GREAT company that appreciates it's staff. Come join us!!

BARRISTAS/TABC CERTIFIED COUNTER SERVERS/ LINE COOKS
All shifts. FT & PT, Exp only. Casual neighborhood cafe, Newly expanded menu w/ draft beer. Apply 1400 E. 38 1/2 St. Tues-Sat, 9am-1pm, 538-1991

BARTENDER !BARTEND! Up to \$300 a day. No experience necessary. Training Available. 1-800-965-6520 x207.

BARTENDERS Many great opportunities. Part time and full time shifts available. Make \$200-\$300 per shift. No experience is required, training provided.
Call (877) 966-9266 ext. 1000. (AAN CAN)

COOKS Line cooks needed. Apply in person at The Dog and Duck Pub 406 W. 17th St.

RESEARCH You've given blood for money. Donated plasma for money. We won't even mention all the other things you've done for a little extra cash. Make it easy on yourself and check out The Austin Chronicle's Clinical Studies Page.

DANCERS & WAITRESSES
The Landing Strip

MAKE BIG \$\$\$
FT/PT, flex. sched., no exp. nec., 745 Bastrop Hwy, one mile from the airport.
385-2878.

DRIVER Quality Seafood accepting applications for delivery driver. Apply in person, 5621 Airport Blvd. Schedule varies M-Sat. Call 452-3820.

ENTERTAINERS

MAKE LOTS OF MONEY!
and have lots of fun as an **Entertainer** or **Waitress** at Joy of Austin Men's Club. No experience necessary. Will train. Apply in person, Exit 250 IH35. 218-8012.

HOSTESS & WAITSTAFF
Now hiring, lunch/dinner shifts available. Apply in person Tuesday - Saturday: Las Palomas Restaurant, 3201 Bee Caves Rd #122 (Westlake) http://www.laspalomasrestaurant.com

HOSTS & SERVERS
Hiring Full or Part-time. 2 yrs min. exp for servers.
Apply in person:
Monday - Thursday, 2-4 at
THE HULA HUT
3825 Lake Austin Blvd.
476-4852


PIZZA DELIVERY DRIVERS/ COOK PIZZA CLASSICS: Now Hiring Delivery Drivers, Up to \$15/hr. Also hiring cook. Please apply in person at 604 W. 29th after 4PM.

SERVERS & CASHIERS
Mongolian Grille Downtown, 183 North, Round Rock. Call 775-2241 / Apply In Person.

SERVERS/HOSTS Seeking AM Servers & AM Hosts. Apply in person between 3 & 5pm Mon-Fri. Castle Hill Cafe 1101 W 5th 476-7218. Voted Austin's Favorite Restaurant, 5 years in a row.

WAITSTAFF Sabotes, Seafood Clam Bar Restaurant hiring FT waitstaff. Apply in person, 7517 Cameron Rd, Ste. 100, 371-3877

WAITSTAFF
\$50 SIGN ON BONUS!!
La Morada
Mexican Restaurant

Have fun at work and bank some cash, flexible hours. No exp. necessary. Apply for our team at 12407 N. Mopac Expy (next to HEB) or call 836-6611

WAITSTAFF Asian fusion cuisine looking for exp'd waitstaff. TABC Cert. a plus. Opp. for advancement. Apply in person at 2400 E Oltorf Ste 1A, 448-4706, ask for Kevin.

WAITSTAFF/WAITER ASSISTANT

Hiring FT & PT Exp Waitstaff & Bus Staff, & Part Time Waiter Assistant. Apply in person from 11-2pm & 5-9pm (Live Oak @ S Congress). Call 512-443-4200 for directions


H-E-B plus!
Everything you expect...plus a whole lot more!
COMING TO KYLE IN 2007!
JOB FAIRS
Thursday, February 15TH & Friday, February 16TH • 10AM-6PM
Monday, February 19TH thru Friday, February 23RD • 10AM-6PM
St. Anthony Marie Claret Catholic Church
801 N. Burleson Street • Kyle, TX
INTERVIEWING FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS INCLUDING:
Meat Market, Seafood, Bakery, Tortillaria, General Merchandise, Card & Party, Baby, Photo, Cosmetics, Entertainment, Texas Backyard, Loss Prevention, Grocery, Cashiers, Carryouts, Showtime Demo, Produce, Floral, Gas Station, Floor Maintenance, Healthy Living, Cheese Shop, Deli, Food Service, Coffee Shop, Wine.

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•Phone Operator
•Reservationists
•Group Coordinator
•Front Desk Agent
•Greenskeepers
•Golf Attendants
•Sales Admin. Asst.
•Waitstaff
•Night Cleaners
•Stewards (PM)

•Dishwashers
•Housekeepers AM/PM
•Kids Club Attds.
•Aerobics/Spin Instructors
•Massage Therapist
•Spa Reservationist
•Cooks
•Bartenders
•Conference Attds.
•Income Auditor
•Front Desk Supervisor

Apply in person Monday - Friday 8:30am-5pm, 8212 Barton Club Dr. Austin, Tx 78735.
Résumés can be e-mailed to
jobs@bartoncreek.com
or fax your information to 512-329-4014.
Web site: **http://www.bartoncreek.com**
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OFFICE/CLERICAL

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STAFFER Rep. Lloyd Doggett

seeks staffer to work in fast-paced Austin office. Send resume via fax only to 202-225-3073

EMPLOYMENT Pink-slipped?

Get back on your feet with the Austin Chronicle's Employment Section.

150

NON-PROFIT

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Call Today, train tomorrow!
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Earth Warriors Needed!!

Apply Within.....

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\$375/wk. Bonuses/Benes., Pd. Train, Travel. Good Comm Skills Req'd. & Strong Desire to Affect Change.

Apply Online Today,

Start Tomorrow

www.texasenvironment.org

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\$300-\$500/Week

- Protect Our Parks!
- Work w/ Great People!

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155

PROFESSIONAL

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The ideal candidate must be a self-starter with the ability to cold call. Candidates must have strong customer service and organizational skills.

Basic computer and typing skills required. In return, you will be rewarded with a fast and fun work environment, paid vacation and holidays.

The Chronicle offers health insurance and a 401(k) program. First year earning potential between \$25K-\$30K.

Please fax resume to: 512-458-6910 or email cassidy@austinchronicle.com. No phone calls please.

BABYSITTER Part-time for 2 mo old baby. Mon-Fri. NW Austin. Call Mara 7735132. Must have references.

BILINGUAL TEST SCORERS

BILINGUAL READER FLUENT IN SPANISH?

Pearson Educational Measurement is looking for bilingual readers who are fluent in Spanish (day shift) to read and score student essays on a temporary basis at our north Austin Performance Scoring Center. = Paid training will begin in late February and early March for these four to eight-week scoring sessions. = In mid-March, we will also need bilingual readers who are fluent in Spanish (day shift). = Successful employees may be asked to work related projects May-June.

• Day shift: 8am - 4:45pm, M-F

• Evening shift: 5:30pm - 10pm, M-F

• Starting Pay: \$11.25/hour

- 10% shift differential for evening shift
- Bachelor's degree required, but it may be in any field

To schedule an interview, logon to www.careermapping.com/pemjobs

or call our interactive voice system toll free at

1-877-PEM-JOBS

www.pearsonedmeasurement.com/EOE



CHANNEL LTR BENDER Ion Art seeks skilled individual, experienced in CHANNEL LETTER BENDING. Must be dependable, team player. greg@ionart.com

WEBSITE Browse our classifieds section online! austinchronicle.com

TEST SCORERS PUT YOUR

COLLEGE DEGREE TO WORK SCORING STUDENT ASSESSMENTS

Pearson Educational Measurement is looking for college graduates to read and score student essays on a temporary basis at our north Austin Performance Scoring Center. = Paid training will begin in late February and early March for these four to eight-week scoring sessions. = In mid-March, we will also need bilingual readers who are fluent in Spanish (day shift). = Successful employees may be asked to work related projects May-June.

• Day shift: 8am - 4:45pm, M-F

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To schedule an interview, logon to www.careermapping.com/pemjobs

or call our interactive voice system toll free at

1-877-PEM-JOBS

www.pearsonedmeasurement.com/EOE



EMPLOYMENT

Looking for a new job? Have to hire a new employee?

Check out the great job opportunities in this week's Austin Chronicle.

If you would like information on how to place an ad, call 454-5765.

AEON Teach English in Japan
Interviewing in Austin 3/11-3/14

Enthusiastic and professional individuals are invited to apply to teach English conversation to adults and children at one of our 300+ schools throughout Japan.

- B.A.B.S in any field & native English fluency required.
- Japanese language or teaching experience not necessary.

Application Deadline 3/2
Apply online www.aeonet.com

HIP HOP AND DANCE INSTRUCTORS NEEDED
To teach kids in the Austin area 2 days a week. 3:30-5:30pm. Must have dependable transportation.
CALL TODAY 210-310-0216

BECOME AN INDEPENDENT FILMMAKER

You could have a career in the exciting world of film and television. Call MediaTech Institute and ask about the "Digital Film and Video Arts Program."

YOU'VE DREAMED IT, MAKE IT REAL TODAY

Call 866-498-1122 or visit www.mediatechinstitute.com
Classes start April 2, 2007

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SATURDAY, FEB 17 & SUNDAY, FEB 18
9AM-5:30PM
4715 US HWY 290 WEST (NEXT TO TONEY BURGER CENTER)

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• COCKTAIL • BAR • DISH • BUSSERS

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Formerly National Institute of Technology
Apply online at EverestInsitute-info.com
9100 US Hwy. 290 East • Building 1 Suite 100
Austin, TX 78754

Looking for a Great Summer Job?
The City of Austin Aquatic Division wants you!

Positions Lifeguards • Office Staff • Swim Coaches • Pool Managers • Swimming Instructors Supervisors • Cashiers

Benefits Starting pay lifeguards 17+ yrs old \$9.75/hr., Additional positions up to \$14.00/hr., Open water lifeguards for Barton Springs \$10.25/hr., and flexible hours. Must be 15 years of age or older to apply.

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www.lifeguardaustin.com

Extraordinary Travel Counselors Work at American Express. Are you one?

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Plan exciting getaways within your own comfortable surroundings. Work for a respected leader in the travel industry. Enjoy the best of both worlds with American Express!

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AMERICAN EXPRESS Travel

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PROFESSIONAL

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Are you one?

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Thursday, March 8th

Work at Home Opportunities
Full-time & Part-time

Plan exciting getaways within your own comfortable surroundings. Work for a respected leader in the travel industry. Enjoy the best of both worlds with American Express!

As one of the Best Companies to Work For, we can provide top salaries and great benefits including medical / dental / vision plans, 401(k) and much more. Join us now if you have 3+ years of experience selling domestic and

international travel to a discriminating clientele. SABRE (Native) computer reservations experience required.

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www.americanexpress.com/jobs
Enter 81095BR in the keyword search field.
EOE

160
RESEARCH STUDY

PSORIASIS DermResearch is looking for adults with mild to moderate body psoriasis to participate in a clinical research study comparing two marketed topical medications used for the treatment of body psoriasis. The study involves 5 clinic visits over an 8-week period.

Qualified study participants will receive up to \$300 for their participation.

For more information call:
DermResearch at 349-0500

ALLERGIES
ALLERGIC RHINITIS?

A clinical research study is underway looking for people who are 18 years or older with allergies. Symptoms include sneezing, runny nose, nasal itching, nasal congestion, itchy or burning eyes, tearing or watery eyes, redness of the eyes, itchy throat, palate, or ears.

All qualified participants will receive, at no cost, study medication, and compensation for time and travel.

For more information call
1-800-369-2875
www.benchmarkresearch.net



DONOR PROGRAM
SEMEN DONORS NEEDED

Fairfax Cryobank seeks college educated men 18-39 to participate in 6 month donor program. Avg. \$150 per specimen. Call today for free application or apply online at <http://www.123donate.com>.

CHILD ACNE Does your child have acne? Do you?

DermResearch is looking for people with facial acne to participate in a clinical research study.

Study participation requires up to 5 clinic visits over a 12-week period. Participants must be at least 12 years or older. If you qualify, you will receive:

- Study medication at no cost
- Evaluation by a board-certified dermatologist
- Reimbursement up to \$300 for time and travel

For more information, please call: 349-0500

TOENAIL FUNGUS Do you have toenail fungus? If so, you may qualify to participate in a research study testing an investigational oral medication for the treatment of toenail fungus. The study requires 9 clinic visits over a 60 week period.

Qualified participants will receive:
• Study medication at no cost
• Evaluation by a board-certified dermatologist
• Up to \$450 compensation

For more information, call DermResearch 349-0500

SEX ABUSE
Has Sexual Abuse Affected Your Life?

Frustrated with Type 2 Diabetes?
Are you taking metformin/ glucophage, exercising and eating healthy? If you are doing everything right to control your diabetes...And your blood sugar level is still too high, we may have an option for you. Local physicians are conducting a research study of an investigational medication for type 2 diabetes. If you qualify, you will receive all study-related care and medication at no cost. For more information call: 512-334-3505

FEVER BLISTERS Do you get fever blisters?

If you experience outbreaks more than 3 times a year, you might qualify to participate in a research study testing an investigational topical medication for the treatment of fever blisters. The study requires up to 12 visits and participants will receive up to \$600 for time and travel.

Call DermResearch for more information about this study. You must be over 18 to participate.

DermResearch 349-0500

PAIN
DO YOU LIVE WITH MODERATE OR SEVERE CHRONIC PAIN?

A clinical research trial is being conducted for people at least 18 years of age to study how an investigational medication may help with excessive daytime sleepiness due to opioid medication. Qualified Participants May Receive:

- Financial compensation for time and travel up to \$700
 - Study-related care including clinical labs and physical exams
 - Study-related medication and placebo at no cost
- Qualified Participants:
• Must be on an opioid medication for the past 3 months.

Contact us for more information...
MetaClin Research
www.metaclin.com
studies@metaclin.com

(512) 732-2444

METACLIN

SEX ABUSE
HAS SEXUAL ABUSE AFFECTED YOUR LIFE?

Researchers at the University of Texas at Austin are conducting a treatment study for women with a history of sexual abuse who are experiencing sexual difficulties. Treatment is free of charge, and compensation for time and travel is provided. The study involves answering questions and writing about personal experiences, including sexual behavior. If you have a history of sexual abuse and it has affected your sexuality you may qualify. For more info, please call

(512) 232-4805
All calls are confidential.

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The Chronicle offers health insurance and a 401(k) program. First year earning potential between \$25K- \$30K.

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WATER UTILITY OPERATOR I - 10-130-070125 - Full-time, \$9.51/hr, benefits. Perform general maintenance, installation, construction and repair of public water utility facilities. Repair wastewater lines, accurately reads and records meters, maintains equip, cuts grass and trims vegetation. Requirements: HS equiv & TXDL; Ability to lift 100 lbs.
CERTIFIED WASTEWATER OPERATOR - 10-100-061115 - Full-time, \$11.30 - 12.60/hr, benefits. Min Req: Class D Wastewater Operator certification, 2 years exp in wastewater utilities; HS equiv & TXDL; Ability to lift 100 lbs. Duties: Perform general maintenance, installation, construction and repair of public utility facilities. Repair wastewater lines, accurately reads and records meters, maintains equip, cuts grass and trims vegetation.
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER - 20-300-070130 - Part-time - \$8.50 - 10.00 Hours: up to 19 hours per week; Includes holidays. Duties: Keeping kennel clean/sanitary, feeding, walking, caring for animals (friendly, fearful, aggressive, ill or quarantined), administering medications, interactions with volunteers and public. Assist full-time ACO. All applicants must complete a City of Pflugerville Application form.

RESUMES MAY BE ATTACHED TO BUT WILL NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR A COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM.

Applications available at: 100 E. Main, STE 100 Pflugerville, TX 78660.
Download application at www.cityofpflugerville.com/jobs.
E-mail to staffing@cityofpflugerville.com. EOE



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Senior Planner - Job #20-220-061222, Salary: \$45,527-\$56,909 (BOE)
Join the City of Pflugerville Planning Department & become an integral player in the growth & development of a rapidly growing community. A primarily residential & close-in suburb of Austin, Pflugerville is poised to take advantage of the completion of two state toll roads along its eastern border, providing opportunities for a variety of planning challenges. The day to day business of the city is heavily involved with planning for additional residential commercial development.

BA/BS: Urban & Regional Planning or similar field. 5+ years progressively responsible local government planning experience in the administration of local codes and ordinances. AICP preferred.

All applicants must complete a City of Pflugerville Application form.
RESUMES MAY BE ATTACHED TO BUT WILL NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR A COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM.
Applications available at: 100 E. Main, STE 100 Pflugerville, TX 78660.
Download application at www.cityofpflugerville.com/jobs.
E-mail to staffing@cityofpflugerville.com. EOE

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DO YOU HAVE TOENAIL FUNGUS?

If so, you may qualify to participate in a research study testing an investigational oral medication for the treatment of toenail fungus. The study requires 9 clinic visits over a 60 week period.

Qualified participants will receive:

- Study medication at no cost
- Evaluation by a board-certified dermatologist
- Up to \$450 compensation

DermResearch Inc.

For more information:

349-0500

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE ACNE? DO YOU?

DermResearch is looking for people with facial acne to participate in a clinical research study. Study participation requires up to 5 clinic visits over a 12-week period. Participants must be at least 12 years or older.

If you qualify, you will receive:

- Study medication at no cost
- Evaluation by a board-certified dermatologist
- Reimbursement up to \$300 for time and travel

DermResearch Inc.

For more information:

349-0500

Do you live with moderate or severe chronic pain?

A clinical research trial is being conducted for people at least 18 years of age to study how an investigational medication may help with excessive daytime sleepiness due to opioid medication.



QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS:

△ Must be on an opioid medication for the past 3 months

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS MAY RECEIVE:

△ Financial compensation for time and travel up to \$700

△ Study-related care including clinical labs and physical exams

△ Study-related medication and placebo at no cost

For more Information contact us at;

512-732-2444

or

studies@metaclin.com



DO YOU GET FEVER BLISTERS?

If you experience outbreaks more than 3 times a year, you might qualify to participate in a research study testing an investigational topical medication for the treatment of fever blisters. The study requires up to 12 visits and participants will receive up to \$600 for time and travel. You must be over 18 to participate.

DermResearch Inc.

For more information:

349-0500

DO YOU HAVE PSORIASIS?

DermResearch is looking for adults with mild to moderate body psoriasis to participate in a clinical research study comparing two marketed topical medications used for the treatment of body psoriasis. The study involves 5 clinic visits over an 8-week period.

Qualified study participants will receive up to \$300 for their participation.

DermResearch Inc.

For more information:

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SAVE THIS ADVERTISEMENT!

*For the next time you have
symptoms of Allergic Rhinitis...*



A clinical research study is underway looking for people who are 18 years or older with allergies.

Symptoms include sneezing, runny nose, nasal itching, nasal congestion, itchy or burning eyes, tearing or watery eyes, redness of the eyes, itchy throat, palate, or ears.

All qualified participants will receive, at no cost, study medication, and compensation for time and travel.

For more information call:

1-800-369-2875

www.benchmarkresearch.net

BENCHMARK

RESEARCH

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Rare units available!

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Walk to shops & restaurants.

STUDIO... \$640!

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LARGE 1BDRM... \$745

BIG 2BDRM... \$845

HUGE 3BDRM... \$1025

Rare units available!

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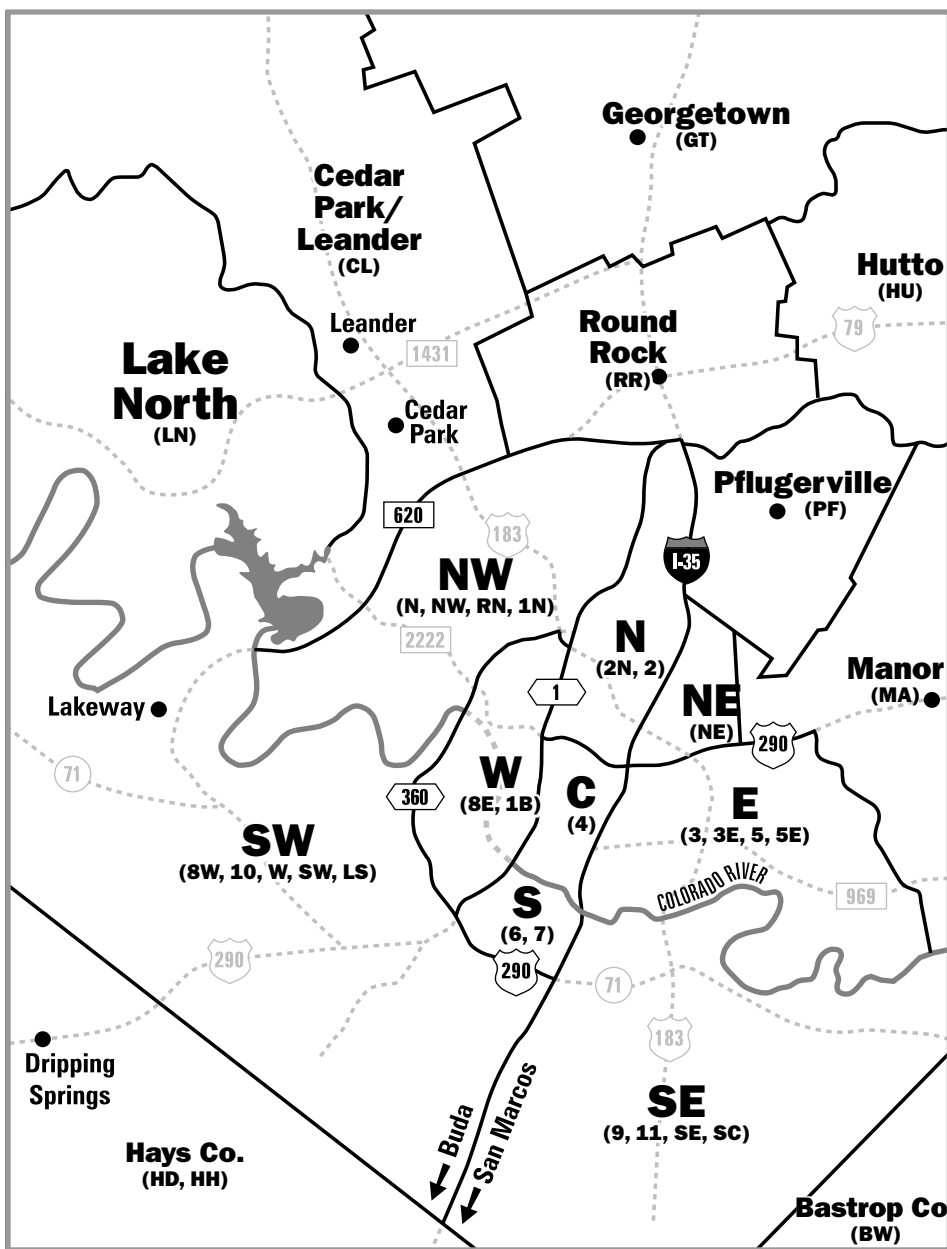
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- On Congress, hidden behind shops, studio \$640, walk to everything!
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416-8333

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- Eff - South w/ Trees Galore!
- 1br - \$505 - W/D Conn, Screened in patios

•1br - \$499 - Works very bad credit

- 2br - \$699 2mins to DT, Close to 35 Mmove in today!
- 2br - \$595 Free cable, Skate park, 2 pools...
- 2br - \$619 w/d Conn, \$99 Dep. 2 pools, tennis courts
- 2br - \$750 - SW Hill Country setting
- 2br 2.5bth - \$750 - W/D Conn Screened in patios.

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CENTRAL HYDE PARK PRE-LEASE FOR MAY!! 2 br \$995. Location, Location, Location. Close in, near UT. A+, 231-1400, Agent

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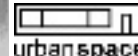
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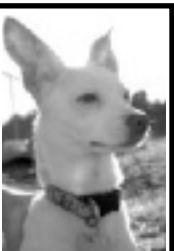
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ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**GV-500507
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200th District Court of Travis County, on the 23rd day of January, 2007, in a certain cause numbered GV-500507, wherein Austin Com-

munity College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Mary Crittenden, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Mary Crittenden are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,146.57** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 1, 2005.

I, on the 1st day of February, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of March, 2007, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 1-A, Moten Acres, Section 2, Plat No. 44/20 as described in Volume 3638, Page 109 and cause no. 260,234 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas. THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,146.57** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 2nd day of February, 2007.
BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**GV-501135
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 23rd day of January, 2007, in a certain cause numbered GV-501135, wherein Pflugerville Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County

Emergency Services District No. 2 and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Ellen Gayle Ogden, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Ellen Gayle Ogden are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$13,480.91** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 19, 2006.

I, on the 1st day of February, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of March, 2007, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

East 200' of Lot 8, Block J, Springhill Village, Plat No. 7/42 as described in Volume 4708, Page 1175, Probate Cause No. 79,394 and document number 2003173149 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$13,480.91** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the

proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 2nd day of February, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**GV-501722
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 23rd day of January, 2007, in a certain cause numbered GV-501722, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Rachel Wilkins, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Rachel Wilkins are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$11,358.90** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 8, 2006.

I, on the 1st day of February, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of March, 2007, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3, Block 11, Foster Sub-division (Off. 58, Div. B), Plat No. 1/34 as described in Volume 634, Page 536 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$11,358.90** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 2nd day of February, 2007.
BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**GV-504211
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 23rd day of January, 2007, in a certain cause numbered GV-504211, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Inde-

pent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 3 and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Jim Shannon, Lela M. Shannon, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Jim Shannon and Lela M. Shannon, Brent Powers (In Rem Only), Travis County, Travis County ESD No. 1, City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista ISD, Water Control Improvement District No. 15, FM Road and County Education District (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$6,592.63** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 11, 2006.

I, on the 1st day of February, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of March, 2007, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 16, Spring Valley, Plat No. 78/199 as described in Volume 8385, Page 623 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$6,592.63** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 2nd day of February, 2007.
BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**GV-504969
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY
DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 23rd day of January, 2007, in a certain cause numbered GV-504969, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, County Education District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and John A. Joseph, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of John A. Joseph and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$8,520.64** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 11, 2006.

I, on the 1st day of February, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of March, 2007, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

25 of an acre out of the JC Tannehill Sur. 29 as described in Volume 5335, Page 1539 of the deed records of Travis County,

Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$8,520.64** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 2nd day of February, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

Kunstance Dawson, Partner Diane Ford, Partner, DBA The Essence of Elegance Ballroom, is making application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit on the address of 2000 A Picadilly Dr., Pflugerville, Travis County, Texas.

LEGAL NOTICES
THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE accepts LEGAL NOTICES at the low rate of \$2.10 per line OR \$25 per column inch (for display advertising.)

Notarized affidavits of publication and audited circulation statements are provided upon request.

Call Jessica @ 512-454-5765 ext. 168 for more info.

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY ESTATE OF SARAH L. HATCHER, DECEASED, IN CAUSE NUMBER 86083 IN PROBATE COURT NUMBER ONE TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF TEXAS

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, do hereby certify that on the 6th day of FEBRUARY, 2007, LINDA CARMIN FRENCH was duly granted by said Court, Letters Testamentary of the Estate of SARAH L. HATCHER, Deceased, and that SHE qualified as INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR WITHOUT BOND of said estate on the 6th day of FEBRUARY, 2007, as the law requires, said appointment is still in full force and effect.

Given under my hand and seal of office at Austin, Texas, on this 6th day of February, 2007.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk, Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

NO. 82,341 GUARDIANSHIP OF SUSIE MAE DAVIS, AN INCAPACITATED PERSON, IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS Published Notice to Creditors Notice is

hereby given that Letters of Guardianship for the Person and Estate of SUSIE MAE DAVIS, An Incapacitated Person, were issued on October 14th, 2006 in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to FAMILY ELDERCARE, INC. as Guardian of the Person and Estate.

The office of Guardian is in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Family Eldercare, Inc., Guardian of Susie Mae Davis, 2210 Hancock Drive, Austin, Texas 78756.

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

SIGNED on the 16th day of February, 2007.

Christine P. Larson
State Bar No.:11956500
2210 Hancock Drive
Austin, Texas 78756
Telephone (512) 450-0844
Facsimile (512) 459-6436

Attorney for Guardian

NO. 86054 IN THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY JANE DAY TOUT, DECEASED IN THE PROBATE COURT NUMBER ONE (1) OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DOROTHY JANE DAY TOUT, Deceased, were issued on February 6, 2007, in Cause No. 86054, pending in the Probate Court No. One (1) of Travis County, Texas, to: Shannon Tout Warren.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Jane Tout
c/o Shannon Tout Warren
1210 Hawthorne Street
Houston, Texas 77006
DATED the 7th day of February, 2007.

/s/ Shannon Tout Warren
Attorney for Dorothy Jane Tout
State Bar No. 20888700
1210 Hawthorne Street
Houston, Texas 77006
Telephone: 713.523.0420
Telecopier: 713.523.0711

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

- 1)OWNER: Jose Zuniga
1992 FORD TEMP
VIN: 1FACP36X7NK176303
 - 2)OWNER: GLORIA RODRIGUEZ
1991 HONDA ACCORD
VIN: JHMCB7654MC021262
 - 3)OWNER: FRANCISCO ESTEBAN
1996 GEO METRO LSI
VIN: 2C1MR2295T6756690
 - 4)OWNER: NELSON BLANCO
1997 PLYMOUTH NEON
VIN: 3P3ES47C9V7511501
 - 5) OWNER: CARLOS MORALES
1994 NISSAN SENTRA
VIN: 1N4EB31P9RC732707
 - 6) OWNER: OSCAR GONZALES
1991 BUICK OTHER
VIN: 2G4WB54L5M1861637
 - 7) OWNER: JESUS DE LA CRUZ ZALAZAR
1995 NISSAN MAXIMA
VIN: JN1CA21D9ST669847
 - 8) OWNER: PATRICIA PALACIOS
1991 OLDSMOBILE 98 REGENCY
VIN: 1G3CW53L1M3441893
 - 9) OWNER: ISIDORO GUZMAN
1991 PLYMOUTH ACCLAIM LE
VIN: 1P3XA7634MF543537
- AUCTION: February 23, 2007 @ 6:00 AM**
About Town Towing
2905 W. Howard Lane
Austin, TX 78728
(512) 835-5444



The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

THE PEOPLE'S LAW SCHOOL

Anyone who enjoys "The Common Law" should attend the People's Law School on Saturday, Feb. 24, on the UT Law School campus. PLS is a free event designed to provide basic legal information to the community, demystify the law, and educate people about their legal rights. People who attend PLS will have the chance to learn the basics of common, practical, and everyday legal issues from some of the most distinguished attorneys in the city.

PLS offers roughly 40 different classes on a variety of topics. General topics like family law (divorce and child custody), consumer law (deceptive car sales, home/car repairs, and identify theft), employment law (for employers and employees), and wills and estate planning will be offered. More focused classes include small-business law, elder law, personal bankruptcy, and entertainment law (with separate classes for writers, film-industry professionals, and musicians) and real estate law (buying and selling property).

The PLS event will take place at the UT Law School (727 E. Dean Keeton); doors open at 8am, and an optional orientation with introductory remarks from Judge Orlanda Naranjo starts at 8:30am.

Courses will take place over three time slots (9, 10:30am, and noon). For example, you can take a wills and estates course at 9am, a small-business course at 10:30am, and an identity-theft course at noon. You are not, however, required to attend all three class sessions (i.e., you can come to only one class if you want). Each class lasts roughly 75 minutes and is followed by a 15-minute Q&A session at the end.

Check out www.peopleslawschoolaustin.com for more information about PLS, including the entire class schedule, directions to the UT Law School, and free parking. Organized by the Austin Bar Association in partnership with the UT School of Law, Lawyer Referral Service, and K-EYE, PLS is a great way to learn about the law, and best of all, it's absolutely free. I hope to see you there!

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

AV0301 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

**MARCH 1, 2007 @ 10 AM
@ AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT
4308 TERRY-O LANE, AUSTIN, TX 78745**

070312068	1982	DODG	PK	A32160P	WA	1B7KD36RXC	S263948
070361037	1986	MAZD	4DR	632CVX	TX	JM16GC2216G1815069	
075000209	1995	PONT	2DR	027KRF	TX	2G2FS225S52217788	
075005790	1990	CHEV	4DR	K68NLL	TX	1Y1SK5462LZ136558	
075005791	1992	MAZD	PK	72VZM1	TX	JM2UF1131N02552289	
075005792	1994	CHEV	PK	7PWF56	TX	2GCEK19K9R1278097	
075005803	1986	HOND	2DR	ZWM19K	TX	1HGBA5343GA167671	
075005804	1983	CHEV	PK	5R9CAF	TX	1GCCC14H8DS170160	
075005805	1987	HOND	4DR	Y32F4D	TX	1HGCAS630HA200036	
075005810	1989	CHEV	LL	059KHZ	TX	1GNER16K6KF185883	
075005815	1994	FORD	2DR	X72NCN	TX	1ZVL20A7R5165985	
075005817	1988	NISS	4DR	S63FDJ	TX	JN1PB21S0JU547304	
075005821	1994	DODG	4DR	NSN72C	TX	3B3AA4633XRT344866	
075005823	1996	MAZD	PK	15PRP1	TX	4F4CR16U4TMM22737	
075005827	1983	DATS	2DR	V9R07B	TX	JN1CA21D5ST666864	
075005832	1986	CADI	4DR	Y24FGW	TX	1G6CD6989G4228422	
075005838	1991	OLDS	4DR	X82YKZ	TX	1G3WH5476MD338599	
075005841	1991	CHEV	VN	8NMC27	TX	1GNDM19Z5MB125607	
075005846	1990	PONT	4DR	T62LSW	TX	1G2HWS4C6L1267887	
075005847	1998	DODG	VN	QZ2889	MI	2B4GP4531WR663299	
075005850	1974	FORD	PK	KAR120	TX	F10YKT10898	
075006067	1989	NISS	2DR	J19NVL	TX	JN1H3S4P3KW015196	
075006069	1986	VOLK	2DR	R46JCH	TX	1VWAG0170G046871	
075006071	1989	HOND	4DR	B14GRV	TX	1HGCA5535KA111331	
075006073	2003	SHOP	UT	65XSTJ	TX	TG1602269	
075006076	1995	NISS	4DR	RXC48S	TX	JN1CA21D5ST666864	
075006077	1988	ACUR	4DR	D75XPN	TX	JH4DA1850JS000122	
075006079	985	HOND	2DR	S22FDR	TX	JHMAF3318FS053903	
075006083	1979	CHEV	4DR	ZB1J07Z	TX	1B6B09A155365	
075006097	1994	CADI	4DR	659GTR	TX	1G6KDS2B4RU227614	

ed, if applicable.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Dated: FEBRUARY 8, 2007
Notice of Public Hearing for Summer 2007 Service Changes
Capital Metro is proposing to implement route and schedule adjustments beginning May 27, 2007. Capital Metro Planning Staff will be available to speak directly with citizens regarding route or schedule issues. Citizens are encouraged to attend any of the following meetings or to contact Capital Metro by e-mail at planning@capmetro.org or by calling 474-1200.

Public Hearing
Monday, February 26, 2007
(Capital Metro Main Administration Building - 2910 East 5th St.), 6:00pm

PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **GEORGE VIVIAN MILLARD** were issued on February 6, 2007 in Docket Number 86004, pending in the Probate No. One, Travis County, Texas to **MARK RANDLE MILLARD**, Independent Executor. The address of record for **MARK RANDLE MILLARD** is 2511 Powerham Lane, Cedar Park, Texas 78613. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims to the foregoing address within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. S/ Mark Randle Millard, Independent Executor of the Estate of **GEORGE VIVIAN MILLARD**

SECTION 00010
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Sealed proposals addressed to Taylor Woodrow Communities for furnishing all labor,

materials, equipment, and performing all work required for the construction of **River Dance Phase 6A at Steiner Ranch Water, Wastewater and Drainage Improvements** will be received at the office of: Loomis Austin, Inc. at 3103 Bee Caves Road Suite 225 Austin TX until 2:00pm on Thursday, March 1, 2007. Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud. Any proposal received after the closing time will be returned unopened. Proposals shall be plainly marked with name and address of the BIDDER and the following words: Proposal for River Dance Phase 6A at Steiner Ranch Water, Wastewater and Drainage Improvements

The River Dance Phase 6A at Steiner Ranch Water, Wastewater and Drainage Improvements proposal includes approximately: 8,800 LF right of way preparation; 4,000 LF of 18"-42" Class III RCP storm sewer with inlets, headwalls, manholes, and drainage appurtenances; 8,400 LF of 8" water line with fire hydrants, valves and associated appurtenances; 7,900 LF of 8" gravity wastewater sewer lines with manholes and wastewater appurtenances; one lift station with associated equipment; 3,400 LF of 6" wastewater force-main, cleanouts, valves and associated appurtenances; temporary erosion controls, and all necessary appurtenances for the proposed water, wastewater and drainage improvements. All work must conform to State of Texas, City of Austin, Travis County, and Water Control Improvement District Number 17 rules and criteria.

Copies of the Plans, Specifications, and Bidding Documents will be on file at the office of Loomis Austin, Inc. at 3103 Bee Caves Road Suite 225 Austin TX, where they may be examined without charge. Copies may be examined or obtained from the ENGINEER on or after February 6th for a non-refundable fee of \$150 per set. Checks

for Plans and Specifications, and Bidding Documents shall be made payable to Taylor Woodrow/Steiner Ranch.

A Cashier's Check, Certified Check or acceptable BIDDER's Bond, payable to Taylor Woodrow Communities in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the Bid must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the Contract, the BIDDER will enter into a contract and execute bonds within ten (10) days of award of the Contract. Performance and Payment Bonds shall also be executed on the forms furnished by the OWNER and shall specifically provide for "Performance" and for "Labor and Materials Payment". Each bond shall be issued in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of contract price by a solvent Surety company, authorized to do business in the State of Texas and acceptable to the OWNER.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive any and all technicalities and formalities in bidding. The OWNER reserves the right to determine which bids are lowest and best, and to award the Contract on this basis. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after opening of the bids. If a submitted bid is withdrawn within said period, bid guaranty shall become the property of the OWNER, not as penalty, but as liquidated damages, or OWNER may pursue any other action allowed by law. A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on February 20, 2007 at 10:00am in the offices of Taylor Woodrow Communities at 3405 Grimes Ranch Road, Austin, Texas 78732. Prospective bidders are encouraged to visit the site.

TA Finkel Inc.,
Todd Finkel, Own-

er/President DBA
Craig's Pizza & Pastaria is Making Application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailers Permit On the Address of 11215 S IH 35 Suite 118, Austin, Travis County, Texas.

THE KITCHEN DOOR INC, CHRISTOPHER BREED, PRESIDENT, JOEL BALDAZO, PRESIDENT DBA THE KITCHEN DOOR IS MAKING APPLICATION WITH THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR A WINE AND BEER RETAILERS PERMIT ON THE ADDRESS OF 3742 FAR WEST BLVD #101, AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY

TEXAS.

THE KITCHEN DOOR INC, CHRISTOPHER BREED, PRESIDENT, JOEL BALDAZO, PRESIDENT DBA THE KITCHEN DOOR IS MAKING APPLICATION WITH THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR A WINE AND BEER RETAILERS PERMIT ON THE ADDRESS OF 2504 LAKE AUSTIN BLVD, AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY TEXAS.

TRAVIS COUNTY ONLINE AUCTION: SURPLUS PROPERTY
RENE BATES AUCTIONEERS (for Travis County) www.renebates.com (TX. LIC. 6644)
* A QUANTITY OF FIVE HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN (547) HOG PANELS SIZED FROM 4', 10' AND 20' ARE AVAILABLE FOR BIDS.
VISIT WWW.RENEBATES.COM FOR A LIST OF ALL ITEMS, LOCATIONS, AND TIMES FOR VIEWING.
* FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT DAN

ROLLIE AT (512) 854-6459 OR RON DUBE AT (512) 854-6458

X96-13527
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 23rd day of January, 2007 in a certain cause numbered X96-13527, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Sherill Ann Umbarger, are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,929.35** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on May 30, 1997.

I, on the 1st day of February, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of March, 2007, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 2127, Lago Vista Estates, Section 7, Plat No. 50/20 as described in Volume 10974, Page 703 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$2,929.35** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 2nd day of February, 2007.
BRUCE ELFANT,

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X99-09504
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 23rd day of January, 2007 in a certain cause numbered X99-09504, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Jay Cooper, Jay Cooper, Trustee and Michael B. Suffness, PC (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$64,571.22** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 17, 2006.

I, on the 1st day of February, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of March, 2007, at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 28, Block B, Violet Crown Heights, Section 1, Plat No. 4/256, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 3756, Page 486, Volume 10628, Page 583, Volume 13185, Page 265 and Volume 13207, Page 166 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$64,571.22** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 2nd day of February, 2007.
BRUCE ELFANT,

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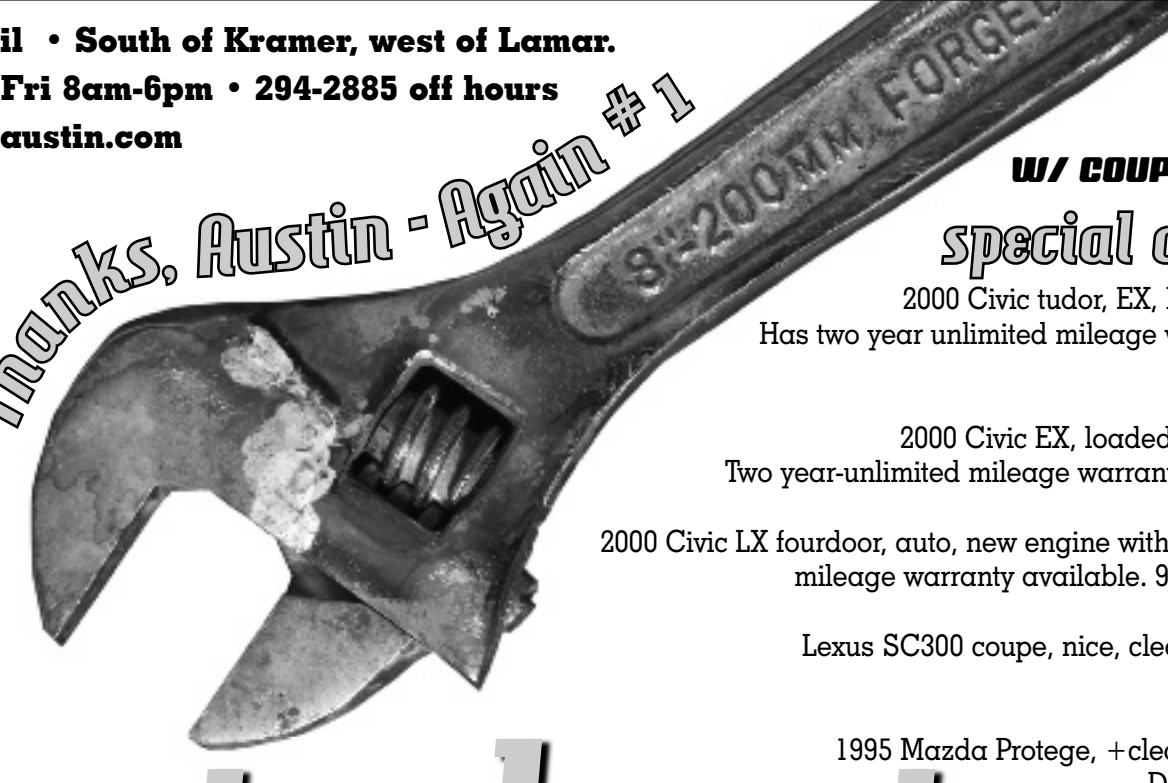
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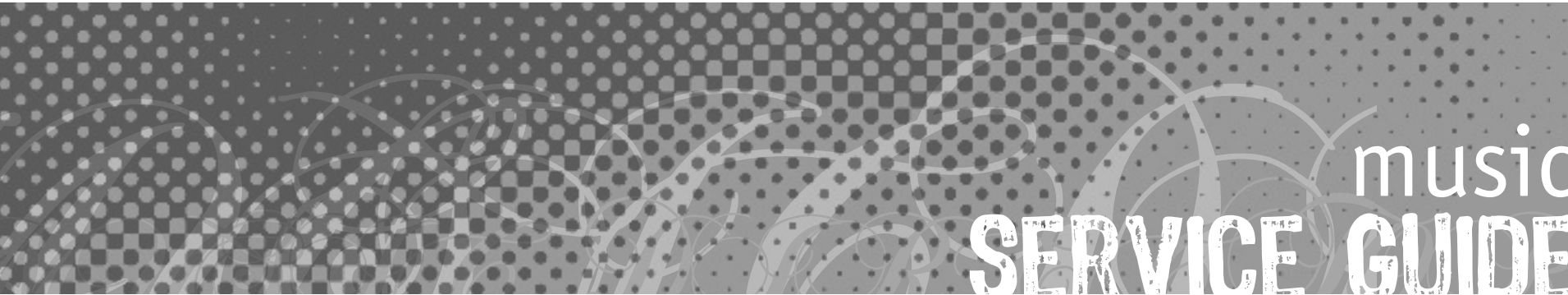
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▼ FEMME BLONDE

FEMME BLONDE PLAYMATE

I am late 40's, short, long blonde hair, blue eyes, nice tits & a bit heavy. I am really into oral & would love to please you... Ideally you should be single, safe & sane. I prefer blondes or redheads. All replies will be answered. Love to hear from you!

read the rest of **FEMME BLONDE's** profile or
enter your own profile for **FREE** online at
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THE LUV DOC


Cornell Hurd • Sat., Feb. 17, 6:30pm

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People are strange, but love makes them even stranger. If love makes the world go round it's only because it's spinning beneath the heels of people running away from lovesick crazies. News reports generally refer to them as "stalkers" or "spurned lovers." They run the gamut from prank-calling preteens to wild-eyed, middle-aged astronauts who drive 900 miles in a pair of diapers to pepper spray and possibly kill and dismember a rival lover. Other than the diapers, wig, pepper spray, knife, hammer, and BB gun, not much about Lisa Marie Nowak's wild ride makes much sense. It's safe to say she was bat-shit crazy, but it's also possible she was just in love. Sometimes the difference between the two is indecipherable. Love, like any respectable intoxicant, tends to addle the senses. People in love may act normal, but beneath the surface they're drunk on a frothy brew of emotions and pheromones. Add a little insanity to that mix and you get Nancy Kerrigan in a knee brace, Mary Jo Buttafuoco in ICU, and Nicole Brown Simpson in the morgue. Those are, of course, extreme cases, but they all involved some sort of twisted logic. Lisa Marie surely had her reasons too. She also had a plan that included along with the items mentioned above, latex gloves, rubber tubing, and trash bags. In other words, she was crazy in love, but not so crazy she couldn't provision herself with an array of weird items that made her seem even more crazy. Rubber tubing? A BB gun? Damn, this chick is good. It's like premeditated insanity. Any normal person with an MS in aeronautical engineering would have at least brought a shotgun and a wood chipper. A BB gun however, is pretty much the key that unlocks the dressing room door at *The Montel Williams Show* – a little nest egg in case the whole kidnapping/murder/dismemberment thing didn't work out. What a memorable Valentine's gift that would have been. Certainly beats boiling the Easter Bunny. Rest assured however this isn't the last you'll hear of Lisa Marie. Her ratty-ass mug will be back clogging up your daytime TV quicker than you can whistle the tune to "Crazy." So just remember while you're out there bird-dogging your next true romance that being too serious can be a serious problem. If, in light of recent events, you want to keep it on the light side, this Saturday you can check out Cornell Hurd on the deck at Central Market North. Cornell may be dressed in black, but he's all sweetness and light when he's onstage and his band features some of the best country musicians in town. They're sure to keep the world spinning beneath your feet even if the lovesick crazies don't.


TOXXIC PINK

I'm new to the Austin area and just want to meet people and have some fun! **toxicpink**, 19,  **#120162**


YOUNG SEX FIEND

Just got out of a relationship and looking for some hot fun. Well endowed gentlemen a plus. I'm up for almost anything. Trust me, you'll keep cumming back for more. **missJ**, 19,  **#119914**


BIG BREASTED BOMBSHELL

Looking for a man who appreciates an hour glass figure and big, beautiful all natural breasts for play, discreet encounters, or a relationship. Big, muscular guys are a turn-on! **DDarling**, 33,  **#119360**


LIBRARIAN LOVER

In an open marriage. Not looking for a relationship. More like a rainstorm; a fun and honest lover. Please no christians or republicans Must love films and libraries. **LucifersWaitress**, 26,  **#119103**


IT'S PLAYTIME BOYS

I'm looking for a man that's sweet and caring but i get bored easily so he needs to be full of surprises so that i never get bored. **austinpartygurl1985**, 21,  **#119045**


BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY

Masturbation is okay, but I miss sex. I like 'em tall, athletic, attentive, creative/romantic, intelligent/philosophical. I/you live centrally and exercise daily. Looking to enjoy life/safely satisfy my sexual cravings. Peace! **she_bop**, 38,  **#118419**


ROMANTIC NERD


I am a big nerd, I enjoy intellegent debate, gaming and a little romance. I love cuddling and long makeout sessions. I am always looking for new adventures in bed. **AmbyRhodes**, 19,  **#115371**

CUTE UNTIL


I'm justine, 22 and married to a wonderful man named buck who is 20 and i am looking for a woman for me and possibly us. **bandj**, 21,  **#120784**

BLONDIES


we're a couple who is happily married but looking to play. **raiderb**, 35,  **#120782**

NEWLY ADVENTUROUS COUPLE
She is 27, 5'3", Bi and 140 lbs / He is 49, 5'5", Straight and 170 lbs. We are comfortable in our own marriage and looking for some new experiences. **buttercup**, 27,  **#120773**


COUPLE WANTS GIRL

Love pleasing each other, and want an attractive, nice girl to learn how to please her, too. First timers; if you're also curious we'd love to hear from you (:). **texas4virginia**, 25,  **#120341**

TRANSSEXUAL CURIOSITY

Straight Couple looking for Austin's hottest non-pro transsexual for an evening of fun. We host provide drinks and party favors. You do what is comfortable for you. **lalita2001**, 35,  **#120335**


SECRET FUN

couple looking for a good time Looking for cute couples and hot girls. Disease Free Please!!! **2for1smorefun**, 22,  **#119940**


FUN AND ORGASMS

Open-minded,intelligent people who love to laugh.She's a BBV,so another smart, curvy girl would fit in perfectly. We also both have a fantasy of finding that special T-Girl to get to know. **Tx24u**, 35,  **#119936**


DAMN HIPPIE PERVS

my girlfriend and I are looking for some playmates. we like all types as long as you're down for fun and have an open mind and imagination. **rocknzac**, 23,  **#119519**


READY FOR FUN!

Just looking for fun...can you deliver? **freak69ntxxx**, 38,  **#119240**


ISO CUTE GIRL

Attractive couple ISO a cute girl. She is 5'4 120, He is 6'0 160. We go to downtown with you, flirt, makeout, party... **Want_sum_fun**, 27,  **#118971**


COUPLE LOOKING 4FUN....

Fun-loving couple, confident in their relationship. Looking to expand our sexual relationship. She is bi-curious and ready to experience new things. He wants to come along for the ride. **nikki32aus**, 33,  **#118935**


CUTE COUPLE

Sexy latin couple: She 28,5'0" 120 pounds, He, 33, 5'7", 170 pounds, looking for bi o courious ladie for first time 3some, she is not bi, just courious. No plays. **latinking**, 33,  **#101212**


FIESTY LITTLE THING

I may be fat but let me tell you i can **lilome**, 24,  **#118488**

ADVENTUROUS, DISCRETE, FUN

Experienced couple that loves to play with adventurous couples . Select bi, single males and females welcome. We are very clean, DDF, and expect the same. We require extreme discretion. **kulcpl**, 38,  **#116581**


SEEKING NEW ADVENTURES

I am a married asian female looking for female fun. I need someone that wouldn't mind including my husband later. Right now you're mine. Drinks first and maybe more later. **suyoki69**, 22,  **#120638**


CUTE, HORNY, CURIOUS

I've never been with a girl before, but would really like to experience something crazy. I have a great bod and supportive bf. Hit me to find out more. **LadyLove**, 18,  **#120616**


OPENMIND FXSHUN

Free spirited, openminded fem. Love fem women!! I am very versatle and lots of fun!! Have no time for games or drama! Just be happy! **fxshun**, 37,  **#120256**


BICURIOS MINUS 'CURIOUS'

I am a bi-curious 21 year old female who is looking for the perfect girl to experiment with for the first time. Send me a message. **Mia**. **MyLoveMiaM-oore**, 21,  **#120044**


BIMOMMIE

Discreet Like Minded Friend for occasional 'Playdates'. I have a man, but miss the touch of a woman. Someone has to be like me in Austin! **MVBBWNSDDF**-looking for similar. **Sophia**, 36,  **#119909**


ARE YOU HOT?

I'm a hot girl looking for the same. I want a girl who is not passive, totally femme, bright, worldly and experienced. **Whiplash**, 26,  **#119900**


SEXY, SASSY, SUBMISSIVE

like women, looking for playmates.... i like to roleplay,submissive, not shy...i am looking for a lady who wants 2 play with me and a friend, (male).he likes to watch. **lizziecreme**, 22,  **#119622**


SHE'S A FREAK

I am mysteriously candid. Honesty is my best personality trait. I have never been afraid to speak my mind. I am not afraid to hear what people have to say. **LOTUS1983**, 24,  **#119471**


MARRIEDBBW LOOKING FORFRIENDSHIP/FUN

I am 5'9, plus size married woman. 30 years old looking for another plus size woman. For ROMance and friendship. Age/Race not issue. Only serious people please. **BiWomanBBW**, 30,  **#119088**


WANT ME?

im looking for some one to share secret fanticys and sexual dreams. I like to alk about what we would to to each other. e-mail me findout what i like. **sunflower**, 20,  **#101035**


WANNA SLUT TONIGHT?

Girls and couples - I am an incredibly dirty girl and I cant get enough. I have huge boobs, and love anything you can give me. Hurry I'm waiting. **anythingandeverything**, 27,  **#120829**

VOYEUR SEEKS COUPLE

SWF average build voyeur seeks mm or ff couple to view. Also seeks m or f for discreet sex/play. Disease free, please. **PantsConquistador**, 19,  **#119714**


BI-GIRL WANTS PLAY

I'm looking for nice, fun, ddf & clean playmates. I'm friendly, chubby, fun, smart and very sexual. I'm not looking for a relationship, just friends. With benefits, of course. **miasola67**, 39,  **#119279**


OPEN MY EYES

Newly single 23 year old seeking new experiences with attractive girls, guys, or couples. Never been with a girl but want new things. Show me what I've been missing! **CuriousCutie**, 24,  **#118149**


WANTED: KINKY GIRL

I'm adorable and I hope you are too! I would be happy to cater to your kinkiest, darkest and weirdest fantasies. Would you help me with mine??? **KinkyDoll**, 19,  **#117573**


STONER LOVER

Open-minded clean asks only for same. **gonzo21**, 21,  **#120776**


DAGUYINBLU

Hey im a young guy looking for action.. and looking for dat sugardaddy, wanting to experience new things.. **daguyinblu**, 18,  **#119820**


YOUNG CURIOUS GUY

Young college guy looking for some new experiences and some fun. More dominant than submissive. **Curiousjoe**, 19,  **#119359**


SENSUOUS, SILLY, SEXY

I'd love to be the 3rd in your fantasy, or, I'll put on a show for y'all to watch, too. I'm silly, respectful, intelligent, sensuous and energetic. **Johnnie_Green_Eyes**, 33,  **#120710**


SURPRISE PACKAGE

I'm a quiet gugu - I get the looks but haven't done enough about it until now! Looking for a friend for some discreet mutual fun... **jamiesdog**, 29,  **#119683**


CROSSDRESSER FOR FEMALE/CPL

I am a 22 year old UT student who loves lingerie. Ladies, I would like to model for you and maybe more. Couples, I am up for ALMOST ANYTHING! **UTdresser**, 22,  **#119015**


CROSSDRESSER ISO GIRLFRIEND

I am a very passable and kinky crossdresser. I am bisexual, but prefer women. I'm primarily looking for a girlfriend, but occasional play partners and friendships are good, too. **kinky_violet**, 25,  **#120083**


SEXY TS

iim a very sexy, very hot passable transsexual. iim 510f 145 pounds with sexy hormonally induced breasts. iim very classy, too, and dress very provocatively. iim 28 years old. **nicole_anais**, 29,  **#115140**


LIFE IS GOOD

I'm Nate 29, married to an amazing chick that lets me explore while she indulges.....I'm about 6' w/ red hair and green eyes, and I'm looking for discreet respectful fun. **nateoneone**, 29,  **#120828**


INTERESTED IN LUST

I am looking for a fun woman who isn't afraid to try new things. I don't care really what you look like or how old you are. **dmadjman**, 23,  **#120822**


POORBUTSEXY

I'm a 22 year old college student, 6'3 210lbs athletic... I just got out of a relationship and I'm just looking for some discreet fun at someone else's place.. **poorbutsexy**, 22,  **#120813**


YOUNGSTER FOR MATURE

18 yo needs a mature woman to have discreet sex with, e-mail me with a pic and you'll get one back and we can set up a time. **spookumstarslap**, 18,  **#120802**


LIBIDO LOCO

Healthy appetite for sex seeking the same. I am in fantastic shape both mentally and physically. Not looking for anything deeply serious. But long-term friends with benefits possible. **Fit4Fun**, 33,  **#120798**

DOM NEEDING SUB

I am looking for the right sub/gf/whatever for my life if you feel up for it hit me back and lets talk and see if we click. **darkangel13**, 27,  **#120650**

HANDSOME MASCULINE LATIN/HISPANIC


Handsome, well built, professional, sane, safe, considerate, 40 seeks couple or select singles. I have some experience but not a pro. You won't be disappointed. **austinhunk2007**, 39,  **#120578**


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women SEEKING men


LET'S BE FRIENDS

I'm fun to be around, a good listener, communicator, artistic and creative. Looking for someone who likes to be outdoors and can teach me a thing or two about life. **jenX**, 23,  **#120817**


SHORT, FAT, BEAUTIFUL

ima metalhead/goth/rocker type..i may seem dark and what not..but i am truly a girlygirl with a huge heart... seeking my metalhead hunny! **pintsizebeauty**, 30,  **#120810**


LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE

I'm new to Austin and looking for outgoing, exciting people who know the best places to see and experience here. I love the outdoors, live music, spending an evening home. **msmelg**, 31,  **#120797**


YOU + ME

Some of my favorite things: traveling, animals, laughter, outdoor cafes, Champagne, random kindness, rare steak, NY Times crosswords. I'm looking for a partner/confidante/friend. Sexy cute brainiacs encouraged to apply! **socobelle**, 33,  **#120736**


THE ADVENTURER

I am sociable and get along with every-one pretty well, I have a good sense of humor, I love nature and animals. **hotjuli**, 27,  **#120725**


HELLO MY FRIEND

I'm looking for a friend who can accept me who I am...well I'm a God-fearing,adventurist,honest and have a sense of humor...thanks. **nuevo_carol**, 29,  **#120704**


SEXY NURSE

New to Austin.I am fun-loving and have been described as being the "girl next door." Looking for fun guys to date, so take me out sometime...you won't be disappointed. **brown_eyed_girl06**, 25,  **#120651**


FIND ME

raise your hand if you just wish you could somehow wade through all the bs and find someone nice? crazy creative traveller looking for a partner 34SVF 5'11 HWP. **FaLPiQua**, 34,  **#120604**

A CHALLENGE

Im young and proud of it. I believe that a person's mission in life is to learn as much as they possible can. I love life and challenge. **navar**, 18,  **#120517**


CREATIVEHEADLINE

i take great pleasure in purposely misenterpreting street signs, misspelling commonly misspelled words, making fun of mainstream music, and taking walks in austin's beautiful nature reserves. **planthugger**, 19,  **#120477**

BITE THE BULLET.

A young Patti Smith, meets Anne Sexton, meets PJ Harvey in black vinyl gloves. Colorful. Cordial. Crass as fuck. **Kuntster**, 22,  **#120463**

ADVENTUROUS,CUTE DANCER!


Love dancing to salsa. I am dedicated to my studies. I want to become a sexual health therapist. i love people who make me laugh and love trying new things. **socergoalie13322**, 20,  **#120415**

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE!
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SIMPLE...

Many things interest me...if I haven't tried it yet...introduce it to me. I'm becoming more aware and I'm tackling my "to do" list. Currently learning the cello and belly dancing! **Virtuous-Vixen**, 26,  **#120411**

TEENY! TINEY! HELL-KITTEN!

What's happenin ya'll! My name is Jamie. I'm a pretty fun gal. I'm looking for someone to just crack open the chronicle and find new and interesting things to do. **gal_of_all_seasons**, 28,  **#120401**


ARE YOU HIM?

I'm looking for something based on sincerity, not on just physical attraction. Looking for someone that would give me self-assurance while pushing me to come out of my comfort zone. **StylejunkieX**, 18,  **#120320**


ANN WANT'S LUV

I love travelling, outdoors, hiking, clubing, swimming, spontaneous road-trips, and cooking. I enjoy seafood,pizza, ice-cream, plays, movies, music,etc. I am very affectionate, loving, caring. I have warm,brown eyes. **annaisinluv**, 26,  **#120313**


SKEPTICAL OPTIMISTIC AUSTINITE

I'm a liberal academic South Austin girl seeking someone special. I would venture to say I'm an interesting, attractive, intelligent woman looking for the same qualities in a guy. **austinista**, 24,  **#120247**


EASY, SLEAZY, CHEESY

I'm all about low-pressure, good manners, intellectually challenging company and flirtatious dispositions. Also, I'm hot for teachers. Green eyes, red hair, nice rack, free saturday night. Give me an "A". **shea78613**, 29,  **#120237**


HORNSFAN, EDUCATED, BEER-DRINKER

I'm really not all that delightful. People either love me or hate me. I enjoy hanging out with foreign friends over quality booze and food. You should like the same. **venividivici**, 28,  **#120038**


DA VIDA LACA

hey there boys, I am new to Austin. Love life and having a good time. I enjoy meeting new people and finding new places to check out! **Saphire**, 35,  **#119910**

ZZZKING SEEKS ZZZQUEEN

hi, im joshua, 36 y.o. just moved here, looking for a good woman to hang out with, dinners , movies, nachos, short road trips, love kissing and lovin..
joshuaazz, 36,  **#120783**


LOOKING AROUND

well i hate to write so if you wanna know something about me just ask and ill tell you. **snuffdipper1980**, 26,  **#120777**


OPEN-MINDED, CHILL DUDE.

Intelligent, fun-loving music enthusiast seeks like minded female for hanging out, bong sessions and dates. **gonzo36**, 19,  **#120761**


ADVENTURE & TRAVEL

I have a Passion for Travel, Adventure, my career, my friends, and a few other hot items. I am creative & witty! want to know more? Just ASK. **INTL**, 27,  **#120772**


I'M ONE*ATHOSE, TOO.

Are you in your twenties and seeking enlightenment? Tell me about it. **PhiloftheMoon**, 22,  **#120768**


SINGING AND ACTING

Hi! Just moved to Austin and am looking for some one to watch movies, see plays and basically just have a great time with. Looking for confident, humorous woman. **Sondheim_Man**, 20,  **#120711**


FAR FROM AVERAGE

I'm positive, intelligent,attractive, with a great sense of humor D/37/6'2"HWP. If you're looking for a guy that can cook anything and won't step on your toes while dancing, contact me. **farfromaverage**, 36,  **#120693**


ARTIST SEEKING MUSE

Whoa! I'm in the paper! 25, 6ft, Love music and art. Create some myself. Maybe we could go to a show and have a few. **actionjack**, 25,  **#120685**


FUNTIMES AROUND

Attractive,funny,funloving,goofy at times,like to cook,play pool,swim in the pool,and watch movies,dance at clubs,drink socially and have a good time,sweet,romantic,passionate,likes to kiss and cuddle,low drama,likes hot tubs and swims,no couch potatoe. **Funguy73**, 38,  **#120646**


THIS IS ME

hvp? i feel silly and desperate but i am looking for someone to spend the rest of my life with. must be accepting to my situation and very honest. **justrok**, 32,  **#120632**


FUN LOVING GUY

I have never met a stranger. The world is my oyster and I am looking for someone to share it with. Looking for a person to enjoy life with. **Rich30**, 27,  **#120636**

SEEKING NATURE

must worship nature,sun. have reverence for the earth,sky,water. well connected with the body and expressive. interests art, literature, travel, adventure, and fun. open minded, liberated, free. healthy lifestyle. mid 30s. **natureseeker**, 38,  **#120628**


WORTHY CONCERT PARTNER

Laid-back, deliberate, easy going person. I tend to be direct and certainly genuine and I appreciate others with similar qualities. **dove_wrestler**, 30,  **#120611**


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
YOU FOUND ME!!

27y.o.6 feet,brown-skinned, eyed, haired. writer. confident. passionate. honest. integrity. stay true to my word, pride myself on that. treat women with respect and faithfulness. attracted to smart women of any age with common sense, the darker skin the better. **50indaclip**, 27,  **#120589**


SMART ATHLETIC MUSICIAN

I'm a native Louisiana coonass that just graduated from LSU and is moving to Austin to play music and work. This looked like a good way to meet people. **CrPeartdrummer**, 23,  **#120567**

HI THERE.

hi,i'm a nice guy and very easy going. if you made it this far and I hope that you have a nice smile you will send me a little hello. **bigred**, 30,  **#116603**

KICKIN' RAD


I despise the thought of cheesy relationship moments, but I would appreciate being the one caught up in such a moment. **OculusBlue**, 25,  **#120549**

SINGLE AND LOOKING


i am cool and sweet to be with well i am seriously looking for a wife and someone i can spend my whole life with till the end. **markphilpsn**, 25,  **#120538**

women SEEKING women


NO LIES...

just love... **suzi_stone**, 18,  **#120658**


CUTE BUTCH SEEKING

fabulous others. Youthful 33, Cute face, nice build, brown hair with hazel eyes, sexy butch-next-door type. Polyamorous and looking for friendly casual thing with gorgeous femme or hot boi. **smartymcsmart**, 33,  **#120641**


LOOK NO FURTHER

just moved to Austin, don't know many people. Looking for fun new badass people. Someone to show me around would be great. I like the outdoors. **Sexy-Beast52**, 22,  **#120512**


PRINCESS NEEDS AFFECTION

...and my "prince" charming. I'm just really down and need someone who will listen, take me out to dinner and/or a movie and help me forget my troubles. **preciousone**, 41,  **#120282**


ECLECTIC, PASSIONATE HOMEBODY.

I'm a large bohemian woman, fond of film, art, music and the written word. Looking for a large and lovely partner in thoughtcrime with similar interests for cuddles, hopefully more. **ouisquared**, 28,  **#120202**


SMART, FUNNY, CUTE

I am looking for an interesting, fun, intelligent girl to get to know for a possible relationship. **cherrydrop**, 41,  **#117583**


TAKE A CHANCE

I'm the- dreamer that keeps you awake love song you yearn to sing whisper who captivates thoughts pedestal who holds your fantasies Desire more Uncover treasures Loves scent never fade. **romanticheart**, 38,  **#119921**


ADVENTUROUS, OUTGOING, PROFESSIONAL

Freespirted,easygoing, and laid back, I'm interested in meeting a woman who enjoys spontainity, outdoor life, and animals. You are soft tomboyish type, emotionally and financially free. high/weight proportionate. Lets cocktail. **119662**, 40,  **#119662**

OUTSIDE THE BOX


No one but you can create the state of mind that you are in at any given moment. Each moment is in essence, eternal. Spend a minute with me. **simplyfree**, 45,  **#119315**

ARCHETYPAL WORKAHOLIC/ SLACKER


I overuse the word definately. I have many behavioral addictions, but can't stand routine. I like to cook, play fris-bee and listen to Marketplace. I like the carbonation in muscot. **bendingwillow**, 19,  **#118965**

men SEEKING men


CITY BOY, IMAGINATIVE,DREAMER.

just another boy looking for someone who shares my likes and who will help me to grow stronger. **mikel**, 43,  **#120220**


LIKE TO WATCH

Looking for younger guys for an occasional hook-up, dining partner or cuddle buddy. Very straight acting, not out. Enjoy videos. Love to watch others. **Trebor1159**, 39,  **#120022**

HIDDEN JEWEL

Gregarious, intellectual, professional, world traveller that loves a flare for life and living. Honest, sincere and loyal with a touch of class. **Fede**, 41,  **#119762**

ATYPICAL, FLACO, EASY-GOING

Eclectic, smart, fun, professional, creative, curious, outdoors, DIY, garden, software, humor, travel. You also please be relatively fit, mature, confident, diverse interests, traveled, down-to-earth, spirited, versatile. **divid0**, 48,  **#119363**

StJohnSmythe

HAVE CAMERA, WILL TRAVEL.


Kind and sensitive fool looking for the right person. I'm funny yet quiet. Romantic and dry at the same time. I have a love of the environment and I will defend it to the very end. I love the outdoors and also the darkness of a movie theatre. 40ish and not bad looking. I'm fit and I like to challenge myself.


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BOUT-SHOOTIN' COWBOY

Laid back, hopeless romantic, jeans and t-shirt type guy looking for Mr Right. Looking for a partner that I can boot-scoot through life. Looking for THE DANCE. **tkaustin**, 50, ☎, #119526

REFRESHING AND QUIRKY
Fun and free-spirited person. I love experiencing new things, meeting new people, and living life to the fullest. If this sounds like you, we'll get along quite nicely. **nightblindness**, 24, ☎, #118639

SHOW STOPPER
I'm a young adult. I'm a freshman at ACC planning on transferring to Texas Tech. I'm 5'11", weight 180, brown hair and brown eyes. I'm mixed with white and mexican. **derrick2006**, 18, ☎, #119156

TALL, BLOND, HANDSOME
My name is Greg, I am 48 y.o. very down to earth. very health conscious, love the outdoors, Am looking for serious loving man looking for long term relationship. **Greg**, 49, ☎, #117595

DOG LOVER
I'm a sincere, warm-hearted, animal rights guy who'd like to be the vegan meat in a Matt Damon/Joaquin Phoenix sandwich. **doglover**, 40, ☎, #116160

SINGLE IN AUSTIN
Hopeless romantic, laid back, down to earth guy, interested in dating, new friendships, and more along the way. I'm looking for guys with good hearts, good head over their shoulders. **juan41381**, 25, ☎, #115939

JUST friends

FINALLY GETTING OUT!
31 woman seeking men/women for friendships/relationships. Single after 6 years. Looking to reconnect and have FUN! I'm a true friend. Enjoy hiking/ camping, cooking, good books/movies, live music/dancing. Let's hang out! **gettingout913**, 31, ☎, #120683

SOLIDLY ME
Looking for friends to know the city better. I love the outdoors, the indoors, a margarita, anything that gives me time with those that make me happy makes me happy. **Recycled_Texan**, 29, ☎, #120659

SMILEY ALE
I am an interesting, unique, scandalous, loud, lovable, funny, happy, joyful, playful awesome and dependable woman. I am searching for an honest man who is outgoing, interesting, and fun! **smiley_ale**, 26, ☎, #120486

NEED NEW ADVENTURES
I am looking for some new people in my life to find some new things to do in Austin (or wherever actually). **arajah**, 34, ☎, #120474

LIKE TO SMILE.
enjoy life , choose life all that jazz, and whatnot. working on a book, and loving the fact iam home after working on a boat for 9 months.great story! **otoco979**, 23, ☎, #120471

DIG IT!
I'm a student at UT, currently majoring in history and drinking way too much coffee. I'm really just looking for someone who is up for going to shows with me. **echo1988**, 18, ☎, #120432

QUIRKY AND CREATIVE
I am an aspiring actress/screenwriter looking to meet people with the same interests as me in the Austin area. Please do not be over 25. **TexasLon-eStar**, 18, ☎, #120183

messages

MC-HAPPY V-DAY! XO, Q
CAPTAIN CAVEMAN: I'M so glad you're in my life. Please don't ever go away. Love you! -Zoidberg

D. YOU ARE amazing and wonderful. We will never be broken

TAMRA, I LOST your #, thru with L call me please!- M

LOVE, JOY, PEACE exist within you. they are your true nature. nurture them.

SLAM OF KYCT: Can you handle me? I think you can! If you know your goal, what else is there? Let's make it us.

HEY CGI YOUR DB is sitting next to you while you are reading this...let's get Froggy!

HAPPINESS IS NOT having what you want. it is wanting what you have.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY GARY ! 15 years and counting! I love you! Rich

BEAUTIFUL AS A lifetime every day
LET EVERY ACTION be a perfect stillness in the heart.

M OR C Saizan:contact Amy from Weldon lane asap

KICKBALLERS-HAPPY 3 YEAR ! Kickballers are the best ballers!

AZTEC MEXI-CAN: V-DAY may be over, but you still own my heart the other 364 days!

BEBE- THANKS FOR being the sweetest valentine i've ever had.

FOUND NIKE SENSOR for ipod nano. Call w/ serial# or park where lost.

CONNECTING US ALL is a shared wise soul. align with it. dance with it. sing it.

I LOVE YOU, Vicki... Happy Valentines Day

FREE WILLASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsy for February 16 - February 22

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): In solidarity with eternal flux and in the name of all that's both rowdy and holy, I hereby declare change to be a good thing. Furthermore, in accordance with the astrological omens, I announce that change is especially healthy for you right now. I mean it, Aquarius. Change is not only not a bad thing, it's downright wonderful. So let's rise up bravely, you and I, and proclaim that change is the essential nature of the universe – that it's one of the most prominent and resplendent qualities of God herself. From now until forevermore, let's agree to celebrate change, to welcome it, to revere it – starting this week. Amen, namasté, blessed be, shalom, and hallelujah!

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): I believe you're climbing up out of the primordial ooze for the last time. You're done! Never again will you be fully immersed in the stinky depths of hell on Earth! Never again will moody despair comprise more than 49% of your world-view. From now on, you will be smarter about how to avoid unnecessary pain and misery. You will also be a better escape artist. Now go buy yourself a graduation present.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): "Dear Rob: Could you please tell me how I can get the men I like to remove me from the pedestals they put me on? If something doesn't change soon, I'll have to call down the lightning and obliterate their delusions. Sorry if that sounds violent. It's just that storms start building whenever I feel cramped by demands disguised as love. -Over-Idolized Aries." Dear Over-Idolized: Good news! You've entered a phase that will be favorable for shattering naive projections and unrealistic expectations. You'll also be skilled at escaping neediness that feels like a straitjacket.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): When 46 English scholars completed their translation of the King James Bible in 1610, Taurus writer William Shakespeare was 46 years old. In their version of Psalm 46, the 46th word from the beginning is "shake," and the 46th word from the end is "spear." Coincidence? I think not. Just as it's no accident that a minute ago I finished reading Psalm 46 and am now composing your horoscope for the period that begins Feb. 15, which is the 46th day of the year. As I write, I'm sitting in a cafe located at 46 Cabrillo Highway in Half Moon Bay, Calif. The people at the table next to me are celebrating their friend's 46th birthday, and out the window I can see a runway where there's a small plane with a 46 painted on its side. My conclusion? Forty-six is your lucky number, Taurus, and you're about to harvest about 46 tons of eerily delightful synchronicities.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): You seem to be suffering, although in an interesting way, from a metaphysical version of jet lag. Maybe it's because you've been stretching your boundaries with such experimental vigor. Or maybe it's because you've been engaging in a form of time-travel, exploring the past and future in your dreams and fantasies. In any case, you can take comfort in the knowledge that the warps and tweaks you're dealing with are the results of your brave choices. Congratulations as well for having churned up the most useful riddles you've had to ponder since you jumped out of your skin last year.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): I expect you'll soon be communing with sore spots and delicate feelings. Cancerian. Allergies may be featured prominently as well – if not the literal kind, then maybe the metaphorical version. People might be extra ticklish, sometimes to the point of irritability. And yet all the squirming will actually be a good sign. It'll mean that one of your most confounding contradictions is close to being resolved. For best results, act decisively at the moment when your vulnerability is most intense.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): Imagine this scene. You're really thirsty – so dehydrated that you're feeling faint. Yet here's the weird thing: You're walking along the bank of a wide river that's so clear you could see the bottom if you looked. But you're not looking. In fact, you seem oblivious to the surging force of nature just a few yards away. Is it invisible to you? Are you so preoccupied with your suffering that you're blind to the very source that would end your suffering? Up ahead you see a man. As you approach, you see he's holding a glass of water. You run to him and beg him to let you drink. He readily agrees. Gratefully, you guzzle the precious liquid, then thank him profusely. As you walk away, he calls after you, "By the way, there's a lot more water over there," and he points to the river. Do you hear him? If you hear him, do you believe him? Or do you keep walking, hoping to find another man with another glass somewhere up ahead?

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): It's time to take down the "Under Construction" signs and clean up the messes from your works in progress. At least for now, your heart has lost its drive for further renovation and rehabilitation. Whether you think you're ready or not, then, it's time for a grand reopening. I suggest you offer free toasters or other incentives to pull in new clients, as well as to coax disaffected old ones into returning. It may also help to put up an "Under New Management" sign.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): "What have you learned so far this year?" I asked my newsletter's readers recently. "I've learned that asking for what I want is the first step toward actually getting it," wrote Sarah Pearson. "And I've learned that the journey you take to try and escape your fate can be as interesting as the fate itself." Of all the lessons I'd love you to learn in the first half of 2007, Libra, those two are my favorites.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): "My God, these folks don't know how to love," wrote novelist D. H. Lawrence, "that's why they love so easily." He certainly wasn't referring to people from your tribe. You Scorpios may find it easy to entertain gusts of lust, but you're too smart about real love to dive casually into its mysteries. You want to be a perpetual student who's in humble awe of the primal power of deep attraction. You know intimately that no matter how sweet and light love may sometimes feel, it always has the potential to sweep you into the unpredictable depths and change everything forever. Meditate further on these matters; it'll prepare you for the coming weeks.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): You want hot gold secrets to ripen in your dark candy soul? Then here's what you do: Study the ocean's memory for its teachings about moon victories. Extract a fresh green why from the book of storms you dreamed about. When the flowers' clouds soar over your shadow, and when night's funny sky has turned into warm, moist roars, you'll know exactly how to look through the sun to the other side of your best fear. (The preceding horoscope may sound crazy lyrical, even poetically feral, but it's a perfect embodiment of the attitude you should cultivate in order to have a successful week.)

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): I was watching Oprah's TV show at 2am "Take off your shirt, and look down," she told me. I don't automatically do everything the world's wealthiest woman tells me, but I trust her a lot. So I did what she suggested. What she said next, however, revealed that she wasn't actually talking to me. "Eight out of 10 women are wearing the wrong bra!" she exclaimed. "Are you?" She then gave tips on how to select an undergarment that's just right for a woman's shape, size, and posture. I watched in perplexed awe. How could so many people be ignorant about such a fundamental thing? Later, while meditating on your astrological omens, I realized there's a comparable phenomenon going on in your world. You're missing something important about one of the basic facts of your life. Please find out what it is.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsy's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TYPE MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

a Shot in the Dark

E GUY- FADO'S/TAPROOM
We chatted at Fado's and you stopped into Taproom and bummed a smoke. You left before I could get your number. Can I try again? **When: Saturday, February 10. Where: Fado's and Taproom. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901480**

JIMMY JOHNS LES
Handsome dark-haired, blue-eyed fellow always talking bike talk. I'd love to go on a ride with you... or just ride you sometime "wink" What do you think? Lets meet!! **When: Monday, February 12. Where: Jimmy Johns. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901479**

FACEBOOK PRESENT PLEASE??
We waxed sexy under the low lights of The Cloak Room. You said you'd give me a facebook present and if I was lucky more. Wanna go see Pan's Labyrinth? **When: Friday, February 2. Where: Cloak Room. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901478**

HEB LOUIS HENNA
Parking lot of HEB on Sunday Feb. 11. Me: getting into black SUV; you: walking into HEB. I love the sleeves. Me: redhead with the black frame glasses. Drinks? **When: Sunday, February 11. Where: Heb Louis Henna. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901477**

CHOCOLATE COVERED STRAWBERRIES
You: a warm welcome to a cold encounter at Amy's. Me: with my friend wanting chocolate strawberries. We got ice cream instead and you threw on the chocolate chunks. **When: Saturday, February 10. Where: Amy's Ice Cream 6th and Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #901476**

CUTE TOWNLAKE BLONDE
You: Adorable blonde walking your tiny black dog on town lake last week. Red shorts and a great ass. Me: Guy walking behind you staring at your ass. Joy sometime? **When: Thursday, February 8. Where: Town Lake. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901475**

SIN PARTY SATURDAY
You kept me company for a little while because my friend and her roommate (your friend) kept walking off. I really enjoyed talking to you. I'd like to do it again. **When: Saturday, February 10. Where: Sin party Sky Lounge. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #901474**

BOOKPEOPLE PHONE CONUNDRUM
My daughter called incessantly & I asked her to stop. You said it wasn't bother some. She shadowed me as I browsed the fiction. Want to discuss books/ringtones over coffee? **When: Sunday, February 4. Where: Bookpeople. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901473**

JAMIE, AGGIE ARCHITECT
I met you as we were both walking our dogs. We seemed to hit it off...then I accidentally deleted your number! **When: Tuesday, February 6. Where: Oak Hill. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901472**

VEGGIE HEAVEN CORNER
cute guy, black hat, best smile, in corner with a friend, i was staring. ordered boba tea to go. me brunette, red glasses and a scarf. lunch sometime? **When: Friday, February 9. Where: Veggie Heaven. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901471**

BBQ BOY
you: working at ruby's bbq. i was with a girl-just a friend-and couldn't help staring at your eyes. you recommended the mac&cheese. but i need more than comfort food. **When: Thursday, February 8. Where: ruby's bbq. You: Man. Me: Man. #901469**

THUNDERCLOUD BURNET
you're the cutest thing that ever made me a sandwich, but asking for your phone number in front of your coworkers is too weird. **When: Wednesday, January 31. Where: thundercloud. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901468**

JEFFREY WINTERS PAULES
you were busy playing with your new Game, but w/out your strong and confident leadership, I felt lost, you're so respected. I'm beginning to see what Jerry saw in you! **When: Thursday, February 8. Where: At Work. You: Man. Me: Man. #901466**

WHOLEFOODS BEER GUY
Richard (or so your nametag said), we laughed over cherry cough syrup beer. Want to share some good beer sometime? **When: Thursday, February 8. Where: Whole Foods. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901465**

AUSSIE COME HOME!
You: friendly, blonde, surfer-look, Australian accent, SUPER cute! Me: early 30s, 6-foot, caucasian. You worked at Fabric on Nov. 18. I asked for directions. **When: Saturday, November 18. Where: Fabric (at the entrance). You: Man. Me: Man. #901464**

BEAUTIFUL MATH STUDENT
Me: Doing homework at a table in RLM on the 4th floor. Orange hat, laptop You: Walked up, smiled at me and sat across the table from me. **When: Thursday, February 8. Where: RLM, UT Campus. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901463**

CALLING MELLOW MOSES
You: Brown hair and a beard, knows how to cut a rug Me: short, wearing a red apron, dances like mj. Wanna have a private dance party? **When: Thursday, February 8. Where: The Drag. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901462**

WORLDMARKET CHECKOUT GIRL
You assuaged my mother&child purchase. Scrawled my company and name. Wanted yours but a lady was waiting. Littleawkward. Should you find nonchalance charming, perhaps we can have a drink together? **When: Wednesday, February 7. Where: WORLD MARKET. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901461**

SHOOTIN THE DARK
I met Amy Violet.She gave me number.I don't know how to save numbers.I tried 123 4567.And there are too many more combinations. **When: Friday, February 2. Where: The rabbit With antlers. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901460**

PAINTED LADY
We spoke, briefly, near the end, confessing mutual admiration from afar throughout the evening, before being torn apart by the conga line. Let's finish a conversation barely begun. **When: Saturday, February 3. Where: Carnival. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901456**

SHOOTER AT THUNDERCLOUD'S
You: Girl with Purple shirt and Grey hat. Me: Guy too shy by your eyes to ask you out. Wanna meet somewhere where there's not a counter in between? **When: Tuesday, February 6. Where: Thundercloud Slaughter/Manchaca. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901455**

ERICA @ CARNAVAL
You: Short, Dark and Sexy hair. Me: Wearing a big FRO and star-framed pink glasses. Sytlist: come tame my Frizz. Love to see those piercing eyes and sexy legs again. **When: Saturday, February 3. Where: Carnival. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901454**

RUNNER AT RIVERSIDE
YOU: black shorts/hair, gray shirt. Asian? whatever- HOT. Me: Saw you from my car. Run often? I'd like to join. There was a blonde girl with you-together? Hope not. **When: Friday, February 2. Where: Intersection Riverside and Lamar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901453**

JASMINE
Still go to ACC? I lost your number and forgot to ask at the party I saw you at. Im back in school just haven't seen your face. **When: Monday, November 6. Where: Cookoff party. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901452**

SPILL
Me: Spanish. Dark hair. Stripped Express shirt. You: Tall. White. Buff. Should be called...Bellini's "The Portrait of A Hot Piece of Man". We shared a moment. Let's have babies. **When: Sunday, February 4. Where: Spill. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901451**

D*CK IN BOX?
You, handsome D*ck in a Box at Carnival. Me, purple sequined butterfly shirt on...can't stop thinking about whats in that box...call me? **When: Saturday, February 3. Where: Carnival 2007. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901450**

CARNIVAL ENCOUNTER
You, dressed as Justin Timberlake at Carnival this Saturday. I saw you early in the night and took a picture with you. Me, dressed in a butterfly sequin shirt. **When: Saturday, February 3. Where: Carnival, Parmer Events Center. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901448**

PAIN
you got a heart with a diamond on your left calf liked scareface i was getting my left sleeve finished liked atmosphere left me stunned wanna be my valentine? **When: Thursday, February 1. Where: resurrection tattoos. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901447**

WHISKY 5TH MIDNIGHT
I was with my best friend when we ran into you outside of whisky bar.... we talked about free cigs and your youthfulness.....we need to meet again.....we know ur name only **When: Saturday, February 3. Where: outside whisky bar. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #901445**

DENVER AND AUSTIN
You sat in front of me on the plane and made me blush. Staying in Austin for a while? You should make me blush again. **When: Tuesday, January 30. Where: D.I.A. and A.B.I.A.. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901443**

SAIL AWAY
TBAGs about how we LOVE Allison... I lied, Allison is great, but I love YOU. Wanna sneak out and see some moonlight? You tell me when I'll bring OG Pizza **When: Saturday, January 20. Where: TBags. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #901442**

CANTINA LAREDO DOWNTOWN
Saw you at lunchtime on Friday (2/2). You have an uncommon and beautiful name and it fits you perfectly. **When: Friday, February 2. Where: Cantina Laredo Downtown. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901441**

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